

Police prepare for swift action as IRA is banned

IRA became an illegal organization throughout the United Kingdom yesterday when the Government's anti-terrorist Bill received Royal Assent after an all-night sitting of the Commons.

in the Bill that would have made possession of a document evidence of membership of a proscribed organization. Within an hour of the Bill becoming law Scotland Yard gave the Home Secretary a dossier of at least 20 suspects and close checks were ordered at air and sea ports.

Yard file names activists

ive Barrrell thin an hour of the Government's anti-terrorist Bill becoming law, Scotland Yard presented Mr Jenkins, Home Secretary, with a file containing the names of IRA activists. It was said that the past two years the Scotland Yard office would disclose how men and women were named to the file, but I understand that at least 20 people named. Many of them were IRA activists, it was said during the past two years, but have been within the file can now be treated as under the new Act and sent back to Ireland or freed from entering Britain.

made by the Special Branch and were accompanied by documentary evidence indicating the involvement of those named. Detectives have compiled massive dossiers on the movements and activities of more than 100 "undesirables", many of whom may now be living in Ireland and will be excluded should they attempt to enter England, Scotland or Wales.

the newly created Irish Intelligence Bureau at Scotland Yard, which will be manned night and day by 14 detectives and collectors. Information from Dublin and Belfast will be available to the police in London, who will monitor the movements of suspects.

Law against terrorism after a night sitting

Political Staff or an all-night sitting of Parliament which lasted over 17 hours, the Prevention of Terrorism Bill to combat the activities of IRA was passed into law yesterday. From the police in Great Britain were able to use the new powers to arrest, detain and interrogate suspects.

Price sisters resume their hunger strike

By Tim Jones The Price sisters, Dolours, aged 23, and Marian, aged 20, have started another hunger strike. They refused food on Thursday night after the Home Secretary said there could be "no question" of an early move to Northern Ireland because of changes in the security situation.

that it was likely they would be transferred to Northern Ireland. But he made it clear that his decision depended on there being "no great outbreak of violence or a deterioration in the security situation".

35 hurt in Ulster bar blast

Thirty-five people were injured when a bomb exploded at a public house in Newry, Co Down last night. First reports said two people were seriously hurt. The police said no warning was given before the blast, which badly damaged Hugh's Pub in Church Street.

Sunday ban by bakery workers will bring shortage of bread on Monday

By Raymond Perman Labour Staff There will be shortages of sliced wrapped bread throughout England and Wales from Monday when the first effects are felt of a ban on overtime and Sunday work by bakery workers.

will also be rolls on Monday morning, he said. Some independent bakeries, which negotiate separately, are not involved. Pay talks between the Bakers' Union, representing 33,000 workers in the large firms, and the Bakers' Federation broke down yesterday.

Lucan 'seen'

Lucan, who has been missing since his children's nanny murdered three weeks ago, has been seen in South London, according to the police. The police have sent a photograph and a description of the missing man to the South London police.

Rare Old Master acquired by National Gallery

By Geraldine Norman Sale Room Correspondent The National Gallery yesterday acquired "The Mystic Marriage of St Catherine", a rare work by the great Italian Mannerist painter, Parmigianino. That was announced some two hours after the painting had failed to sell in an auction at Christie's and been bought back on behalf of the owner, Lady Normanton, at £273,000.

of Normanton, who succeeded in 1957. However, it was announced at the sale that the painting was being sold on behalf of the countess. The painting is believed to have been for many years in the National Gallery's secret list of works in private hands in Britain which it wished to acquire. Christie's said yesterday that the gallery had shown interest before the sale; they were not apparently bidding at the auction. Agnew's, who have acted for the National Gallery at past auctions, were not represented at the opening of the sale; a director slipped in for the sale of the Parmigianino. The under-bidder was the Louvre. Another bidder around



President Makarios addresses a rally in Athens yesterday. Report page 5

UN votes to maintain peace force on Golan

New York, Nov 29.—The Security Council today renewed the mandate of the United Nations Disengagement Observer Force on the Golan Heights front between Syria and Israel, for a second period of six months. The vote was 13-0 in favour, with two abstentions—China and Iraq. Both Syria and Israel had agreed to a renewal of the mandate.

Labour left scores anti-EEC victory

By Our Political Staff By carrying an expansive anti-European motion, the Labour Party conference in London yesterday mildly embarrassed the Government's efforts to negotiate the United Kingdom's continued membership of the European Economic Community.

The argument was that Mr Wilson, in an expansive moment, had assured the conference that the Labour Government was in for five years, and therefore there had been an ex-cathedra answer to the question whether the pledged ballot on EEC membership would be by referendum or another general election. If Mr Wilson was to be believed about the duration of the Labour Government's tenure of office, then a referendum next year it must be.

Doctors find Mr Nixon unable to testify now

From Patrick Brogan Washington, Nov 29 Mr Nixon, the former President, will not be well enough to testify in a Washington court before February 16, according to a panel of three doctors appointed by the court. Their unanimous report was presented to Judge John Sirica today.

President Ford to visit China next year

From Our Own Correspondent President Ford will visit China next year at the invitation of the Chinese Government. The visit was arranged during Dr Kissinger's talks in Peking, which have just ended.

Double killing

A judge yesterday ordered an inquiry into why a man convicted of killing one of his children was allowed to look after the remaining three when his wife left him. The man was convicted yesterday of the manslaughter of a second child.

Rail travellers face large fares rises

British Rail has applied to the Price Commission to increase fares in January by between 12 and 15 per cent. The application is expected to be a formality, in view of the Chancellor's Budget statement that the nationalized industries in April, the first for two years, would be allowed increases to reduce their mounting losses. London Transport users also face a 35 per cent fare increase.

ing of Andreas Baader, her alleged co-leader, from police custody in 1970. In Bonn the Federal Ministry of the Interior published a report on an anarchist conspiracy in West Germany. Page 4

Frau Meinhof given eight years for part in murder attempt

Frau Ulrike Meinhof, alleged joint leader of the Baader-Meinhof anarchist group, was yesterday jailed for eight years for her part in an attempted murder in connexion with the free-

ing of Andreas Baader, her alleged co-leader, from police custody in 1970. In Bonn the Federal Ministry of the Interior published a report on an anarchist conspiracy in West Germany. Page 4

Turkish defeat

The new Turkish Government of Mr Sadi Irmak was defeated, 358 votes to 17, in its first confidence vote in Parliament yesterday. After a vote his 16-day-old Cabinet resigned.

Newspapers: Publication of national dailies may be disrupted next week because of an unsettled NGA pay claim. 2 unserted pay claim. 2 Epping Forest: Battle line-up for the public inquiry that opens on Tuesday into a motorway route which conservationists say threatens wildlife. 2

Baby case fails

A woman of 25 failed yesterday in a High Court action for damages for burns she received as a day-old baby in hospital. She claimed that as she had been taken from her mother and put in a cot in another room she was not in her mother's custody and so was not barred by the Limitation Acts from suing after so many years. The judge rejected the claim.

Teachers' pay: Scottish militancy angrily reject a £100 interim rise and promise to step up their disruptions. 2 Students: Mr Prentice was in danger of dragging down the whole education system, it was claimed yesterday at the opening of the NUS conference. 3 Paris: France's controversial Bill liberalizing the abortion laws is saved from parliamentary defeat by votes of the Opposition. 4 Missing MP: Mrs Stonehouse says in an interview that she believes her husband was drowned by exceptional ocean currents. 5 Washington: Member of the Ford Cabinet is forced to apologize for repeating a joke about Pope in a mock Italian accent. 5

Brisbane Test

Australia were saved from an early collapse by the Chappell brothers on the first day of the first Test match against England at Brisbane. Ian Chappell made 80 and Greg Chappell scored 58. In the last hour Australia were in trouble again and finished 219 for six.

Coco's memorial: Famous clown and circus performers met at St Paul's for a service in memory of the man who put laughter into living. 16 Brewing: The chairman of Watney Mann & Truman Holdings says in major operational shake-up. 17 Sugar: Sir Christopher Soames urges Commonwealth producers to accept EEC offer. 17

Still the greatest French impressionist... ever

Advertisement for Monsieur Worth, featuring a black and white photograph of a woman in a hat and a list of products including 'After Shave, Eau de Toilette, Deodorant, Shaving Cream, Savon, etc.' The text reads 'MONSIEUR WORTH From selected stores and chemists only.' Below the text is the address 'Worth Perfumes Ltd, 116, The Strand, London WC2R 2BG. Tel. 01-954 2772'.

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Irish Republic's President

former chief justice of the Republic, Mr Cearbhall Riagh (Mr Carroll Daly) is the new President. It was decided last night. He is an 81-year-old man and there will be an election.

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HOME NEWS

Mr Prentice criticized student leader

Mr Prentice, Secretary of Education and Science, is in danger of making himself unpopular in the student union...

Mr Prentice also announced a claim to increase grants by two fifths in September...

Mr Prentice is also expected to announce a new government support, but he has not yet done so...

Mr Prentice would say if you want to make your most unpopular man in government, that's your...

Mr Prentice also attacked the idea of a new measure to be introduced by the Secretary...

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1,000 needed Plaid Cymru

Cymru needs to raise in the next six weeks \$ of financial difficulties...

guide

Preparation of Christmas Sunday Times Colour is brought together...

How to get a gold watch from your firm.

And £15,432 from us.

The watch you can ask for a week or so before you retire. The £15,432 takes just a little more planning...



Clinical, Medical & General Life Assurance Society, 15 St. James's Square, London, SW1Y 4LQ

Name: _____ Address: _____ Date of birth: _____ Tel: _____



Terry Scott, the comedian, starting a 48-hour carol sing-in on the steps of St Martin-in-the-Fields, London, yesterday to raise money for War on Want.

Judge orders inquiry into how father was able to kill twice

From Our Correspondent Sheffield

A judge yesterday ordered a full inquiry into why social workers allowed John George Auckland to look after his three children when they knew he was a convicted child killer.

Mr Justice Lawson ordered the inquiry at Sheffield Crown Court after being told that Mr Auckland had killed his daughter Susan, aged 16 months...

The judge sentenced him to five years' jail after the jury had found him not guilty of murder but guilty of the girl's manslaughter. It was his second prison sentence in six years for killing one of his children.

Mr Barry Mortimer, QC, for the prosecution, said that when Mr Auckland's wife left him last March his three children, John, aged three, Maody, aged 2½ and Susan, were looked after by relatives...

After the jury had reached their verdict Mr Mortimer said that Mr Auckland, aged 30, had already served an 18-month sentence for the manslaughter of another of his children, Marianne, aged nine weeks. He was sentenced at Leeds Assizes...

Tory party accounts show big rise in income

By Geoffrey Smith Political Staff

The annual accounts of the Conservative Party, published today, show that the party had a much higher income in the financial year ended last March.

Net donations were up from £893,000 to £2,379,000. But a strict comparison between the two years is not possible because 1973-74 was an election year, so the figure for the party's income includes the general election appeals.

Expenditure, at £2,134,000, was substantially higher than for the last election year, 1970-71, when it was £1,668,000.

The party was not able yesterday to break down the total figure of donations between individual and company contributors, though it is understood that rather more came from individuals than from companies.

One of the three joint treasurers, Mr William Clark, MP for Croydon, South, said that while the accounts might look very healthy, they revealed the position at March 31 last year.

Since then there had been an other general election with high expenditure so the financial position now was not so good.

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On October 16, 1968, after the charge had been reduced from murder.

Mr Mortimer said that Marianne died in her cot from head injuries. Susan died after inhaling vomit, but had multiple injuries.

Mr Auckland, unemployed, of Queen's Drive, Shafton, Barnsley, said in a statement that when his wife left him in March things got on top of him. He tried to cope with cooking and washing and looking after the children, but they cried a lot.

On July 10 Susan began crying in her cot. He lost his temper and shook and slapped her. Then he dropped her accidentally on the stairs. He denied intending to kill her but admitted that he had tried to cover up her injuries by faking an accident.

After sentencing Mr Auckland the judge called Mr Tim Jones, a social worker, into the witness box and asked him: "At the time the decision was taken, that these three children should go back into the care of the father, were you aware of his previous record?"

Mr Jones answered: "Yes, my Lord. May I add to that?" The judge replied: "No. That is all I want to know. The reason I ask that question is that I am greatly concerned as I am sure you are, and the public, about what has happened in this case. I am going to take appropriate steps to see a full inquiry is made."

Mr Arthur Myerson, QC, for the defence, said the fact that Mr Auckland was looking after the children was not entirely his own fault. He had had at least the tacit support and acknowledgment of the agencies involved.

Barnsley social services department stated later that Mrs Auckland left home on March 28 and went to Lodon. She agreed to leave Susan, who was in a neglected state, with the department. For five weeks Mr Auckland prepared to look after all three of his children, and in the meantime Susan was placed with a foster-mother while the elder children stayed with his parents.

After a full discussion, and investigation by the department, Mr Auckland took over the care of his children on May 10. In view of his past history, the department considered applying to the magistrates for a compulsory care order, but decided that on grounds could be established.

The family was visited by the department eight times between April and July, and Mr Auckland's parents visited daily. The health service was also involved. The children's welfare gave no cause for concern.

The department last visited the home two weeks before Susan died and there was no reason for concern over the children's safety. Offers made by the department to take care of the children on a voluntary basis were declined by all.

The judge said the men, John Craig Whitehead, aged 41, of Billinge, Wigan, Harold Travis, aged 35, of Huyton, and Thomas Travis, aged 33, of Haydock, had operated a mean and petty fraud on the National Council Board by means of a weighbridge dodge.

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In brief

Man who killed is freed

A miner who killed a neighbour who disturbed his sleep was freed at Nottingham Crown Court yesterday.

Mr Dudley, it was said, dashed into the street, where men were quarrelling, and punched Mr John Ruddy, aged 42, who fell backwards and hit his head. He died in hospital. Mr Justice Stocker said he accepted it was an accident.

Axe murderer jailed

Kenneth Christopher Raisin, aged 35, of Charnwood Street, Derby, was jailed for life at Nottingham Crown Court yesterday for the axe murder of Mr Gregory Homiak, a Polish Ukrainian, aged 56, at his home in North Normanton, last November.

£13,922 for conjurer

Mr John Cross, aged 37, an amateur conjurer, of World's End Lane, Weston Turville, Buckinghamshire, who lost the use of three fingers of his right hand in an accident at work, was awarded £13,922 damages in the High Court yesterday.

Singer owes £9,000

Mr Ronald Carroll, aged 40, who represented Britain in the Eurovision song contest, 1963, said at Brighton bankruptcy court yesterday that he had debts of more than £9,000 and assets of £2.

Gas ship sails

The container ship Asia-freighter, 33,500 tons, sailed from Falmouth Bay yesterday for Rotterdam after dispersing poisonous arsine gas that affected 17 of the crew, five being still in hospital.

265 pigs killed

The slaughter of 265 pigs was ordered at Rolls Hill Farm, Thorness, Isle of Wight, yesterday after confirmation of the island's first outbreak of swine vesicular disease.

Nationalist move to capitalize on referendum

A motion has been put on the order paper of the House of Commons by the Scottish National Party, supported by some MPs from all other parties, calling on the Government "when publishing the results of a referendum on continued membership of the European Economic Community to publish the results constituency by constituency."

The purpose is to reveal whatever differences in voting patterns there may be between Scotland, Wales and England. The Scottish nationalists in particular are looking forward to the possibility of the United Kingdom as a whole choosing to remain in the Community, but most Scottish electors voting to come out.

The Scottish National Party could also claim that the Scottish people were once more being dragged along on English coattails. Plaid Cymru would no doubt hope to reap a similar political gain if the same pattern were repeated in Wales.

In each case the nationalists would be campaigning against membership, while the leaders of all the United Kingdom parties are expected to recommend approval of the renegotiated terms.

The nationalists are not necessarily irrevocably opposed to membership of the EEC. The SNP emphasize that they would be prepared to consider it if Scotland were to have separate representation at Brussels. In other words, if Scotland gains her independence they would put the decision on the Community to the Scottish people.

Some leading members of the SNP would be in favour of Scotland joining as a separate member, while others would prefer her to have a radiog agreement on similar lines to those negotiated by Norway and the European Free Trade Association.

PARLIAMENT, November 29, 1974

Government accept case for extra support to one-parent families

House of Commons

MRS HELENE HAYMAN (Wolwyn and Hatfield, Lab) opened a debate on the problems of one-parent families and the Finer Committee report on the subject.

She said that there were one million children at present being brought up by lone parents. All such parents had one thing in common: poverty. It was expensive to run a home with only one parent in it as it was for two.

A lone woman had to pay for help with work which would be started by two parents and a lone father with no wife to help with, for example, washing, was faced with the same problems. Bills might not otherwise have been paid.

The stereotype one-parent family was the unmarried mother. But in fact there were only 80,000 single mothers; there were 80,000 motherless families but by far the biggest group was divorced, separated, or widowed mothers.

These women frequently had difficulty in getting the maintenance they were granted. They faced the humiliating prospect of going to get it and frequently the father had a second family and could not afford to keep two families. The state, as a result, was expected to take the responsibility in these cases.

She disliked means-tested benefits and opposed the introduction of Family Income Supplement, but they were faced with the grim reality that many thousands of families were dependent on it. Lowering the number of hours

required to be worked per week would make more workers eligible for FIS.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer should have brought in family allowance for the first child of families.

A totally new scheme of a special cash allowance as of right for all one-parent families, whatever their status, was needed.

MR CORMACK (South-west Staffordshire, C) said money at present spent on food subsidies in a general maintenance allowance. It would be of much greater benefit to this deprived section of the community. It was essential that something should be done to humanize the co-habitation rule.

MR GEORGE (Walsall, South, Lab) said they wanted to create a protective shield covering the whole range of difficulties facing one-parent families.

The report had drawn attention to the poverty facing one-parent families compared with that facing the two-parent family. The committee's proposals would create a social security benefit which was enough to lift them off supplementary benefit and which would act as a guarantee of maintenance.

The Government accepted in principle the case for additional support for one-parent families who were at present preparing their own child benefit scheme which they believed would take the place of the child tax allowance and family allowance and provide a benefit which would include the first child.

One-parent families stood to gain from this because many did not qualify for family allowance and it would be of special help to those trying to help themselves who did not earn enough to get any benefit from the child tax allowance.

Already the Government had doubled the disregard—from £2 to £4—when one-parent families could earn before their supplementary benefit was affected.

The committee recognized that a guaranteed maintenance was not a short-term solution and would take some time to introduce. The Government had reservations about the nature of the allowance because it would be means tested and it was their intention to reduce the dependence on means-tested benefits. A guaranteed maintenance allowance would be extremely expensive. An allowance on the basis suggested in the report would need to be introduced over a week for a woman with one child and this would cost about £250m net.

The co-habitation rule was frequently criticized and the department was sponsoring independent research into the problems associated with it.

Exceptional planning cases only in private

MR MICHAEL HAMILTON (Salisbury, C) moved that this House disapprove of the holding of planning inquiries in secret.

He said most people regarded a planning inquiry as a public inquiry and the same thing, but this was not so. What used to be called a public inquiry may now take place behind closed doors. The public has a right to know what is going on. It is a disturbing development and when citizens' rights were curtailed, it was right that the Government should be held to account.

A large company had moved into Wiltshire for large-scale mineral working on 600 acres of land. It was estimated that millions of pounds on railway sidings and processing plant. A planning inquiry took place at Salisbury when the centre was heard by a public inquiry. Mr Justice Stocker said he accepted it was an accident.

MR CARMICHAEL (Under Secretary for the Environment Glasgow, Glasgow, Lab) said there had been no case where a whole inquiry had been held in camera. The secret session at East Gristead lasted about one hour in a two day inquiry. There were only two cases that the department could find where the question of a secret session had been raised at all.

All MPs were concerned about the thin edge of the wedge, but this wedge was thin. It was intended that in camera sessions would be exceptional.

In camera inquiries (he said) are only likely to be justified in exceptional, rare circumstances. The rarity of the cases is surely some guarantee of this. We are adhering to the principle that hearings should be in public. Any departure from that rule would be exceptional.

MR DESS (Haringey, Hornsey, C) said he was disturbed about the suggestion that a decision had been taken on whether the inquiry should be held in camera by a junior civil servant without reference to the minister or the permanent secretary.

MR LYON, Minister of State, Home Office (C) said that on the morning of the inquiry a version of what took place was different from the allegations Lennox made to the National Council for Civil Liberties. Comparing one with the other, there were grounds for believing that the police version of what took place was more credible and correct. Both versions were now available to the public after a decision taken by the Home Secretary to allow any access to show the public that the Special

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IRA ban is law after marathon sitting

The Prevention of Terrorism (Temporary Provisions) Bill which makes the Irish Republican Army illegal in the United Kingdom became law this morning after an all-night sitting in the Commons.

The 17-hour session on the Bill, which was taken through all stages in the morning after a concession to the demands of Labour MPs by Mr Jenkins, Home Secretary. He agreed on report stage to remove from the Bill a section relating to a document in which possession of a document relating to a proscribed organization should be considered evidence of membership of that organization.

Mr Jenkins said he had consulted the Attorney General, the Lord Advocate and his own advisers who had concluded the section was not necessary.

This move was received with loud cheers by Sir Michael Havers (Barnet, Wiltshire, C) for the Opposition, who said the House deserved a better explanation. Mr Brotherton (Louth, C) said the Home Secretary had capitulated to his left wing.

In the Lords, where the Bill passed through all its stages in a few minutes, Lord Williams of St Marylebone, said he regretted the Home Secretary's decision. He said: "The Bill is seriously weakened by this decision, which is an unfortunate concession to elements who have no practical experience of handling legal matters."

Mr Pitt (Belfast, West, SDLP) had earlier moved an amendment to have the Ulster Freedom Fighters, the Red Hand Commando and the Ulster Protestant Action Group listed as proscribed organizations along with the IRA. The amendment was defeated.

There were two divisions during the all-night sitting, the first on a Labour amendment to give a person against whom an exclusion order was made the right to an appeal before an appeal tribunal. The amendment was rejected by 218 votes to 51. Government majority 167. In a second division the Government had a majority of 122.

Royal Assent was signified by the National Theatre Bill, and after dealing with other minor business, the Commons adjourned at 10.47 am, having sat for 20 hours.

Mr Thomson hits at claims on 'propaganda'

From Ronald Kershaw Hull

Mr George Thomson, European Communities regional policies, yesterday hit back at critics, including Mr Shore, Secretary of State for Trade, who earlier this week had accused him for spreading EEC propaganda.

He told industrialists and local authority representatives at Hull that as fewer than 40 MPs had informed about the facts and the issues that will lie behind the fateful choice about Britain staying in the European Community, there is an immense task of information to be undertaken.

Mr Thomson said he was puzzled by suggestions that he should allow himself to be muzzled in public discussion over Britain's membership of the Community. It was part of a European commissioner's job to explain the policies of the Community, especially in the country from which he came.

The initial response of the Community to the energy crisis, he said, was deeply disappointing. "We saw the individual European countries running for national cover and scrambling to get the best deal for themselves."

The determination to make another European war impossible was one of the major forces driving the nations of Europe towards economic and political solidarity.

Now we have the oen threat of economic warfare and economic chaos. Only a new solidarity between the nations of Europe can protect them.

It is only by being part of the European Community that Britain can have any real influence—real sovereignty if you wish—over the decisions on world economic affairs and world trading relations which will determine its future.

Special Branch defended

Broach had nothing to hide in relation to their activities.

The Government would investigate with scepticism any suggestion that the Special Branch were conducting their inquiries wholly under the law if there were reasons to believe that that was not correct.

The only reason they had a Special Branch was because there were real threats to the security of the state and it would be wrong in seeking to control the way in which they exercised police power to inhibit in any way their activities in defending state security.

House adjourned, 4.21 pm.

Every week finds hundreds more elderly people coming face to face with reduced circumstances. Their savings run out. Their incomes spread more thinly. We do what we can to help without taking away their pride and independence.

We talk to them in language they understand and give help in the form of food, clothes, money and medical attention. And those in greatest need live out their lives in the comfort of one of our 10 Residential or Nursing Homes.

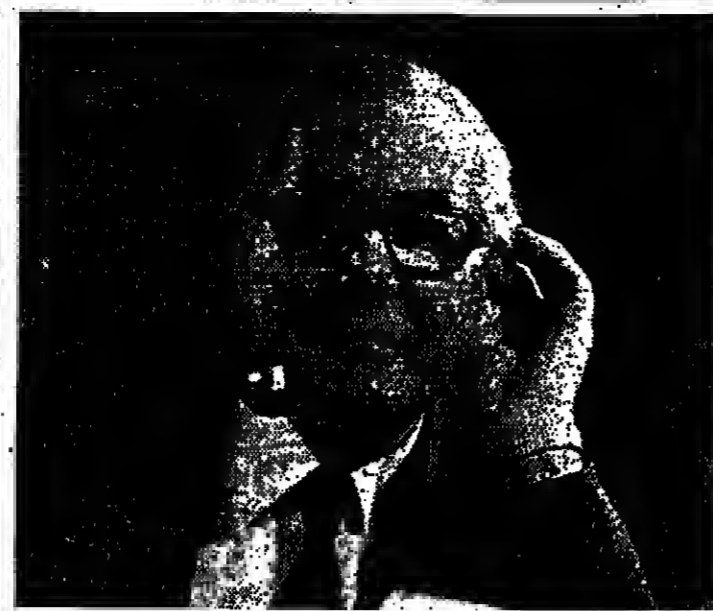
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LABOUR PARTY CONFERENCE



Mrs Castle and Mr Joseph Gornley emphasizing points when they were at the rostrum yesterday.



Mr Callaghan (centre) listens to the conference debate.



Mrs Castle and Mr Joseph Gornley emphasizing points when they were at the rostrum yesterday.

Platform defeated in card vote on EEC safeguards

By Our Parliamentary Staff The promise that the British people would be allowed to have the final word on the outcome of the referendum...

Mr Peter Price, Sheffield, Stridsdale, moved a resolution stating: 'This conference demands that complete safeguards be gained in the negotiations with the EEC on all the following points...

Mr Kee Baker, National Union of General and Municipal Workers, said that in the present world economic crisis it became more important than ever that the British electorate should make their decision as early as possible.

They intended to complete the process on all the six items in the manifesto by the end of the spring of next year.

Legislation on land promised soon

The Labour Party national executive committee has given Government assurances about its intentions on land legislation to come before Parliament soon.

The Government was urged to revise their long-term proposals in the White Paper for public acquisition of buildings...

Mr Short declared that the British people would decide the issue within the coming year before next October.

Mr Alan Upper, Association of Cinema and Television and Allied Technicians, seconded, said no fundamental negotiations were possible if one accepted in advance the right of the EEC to determine its own defence policy.

Mr Richard Boyle, Richmond, Yorkshire, said that France had the most efficient agricultural industry in the world.

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Government intervention in industry welcomed

A call for detailed Government intervention in industry to control jobs and economic activity was made by the Municipal Workers' Union in a resolution that was carried.

Mr Edward Mooney, Liverpool, Walton, said he wanted to know who would decide where the handouts would go.

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Mr Healey withstands severe attacks on his finance for industry plans

Mr Healey, Chancellor of the Exchequer, successfully defended his Budget proposals to make available funds for productive investment through the National Enterprise Board.

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Mrs Castle claims breakthrough in social services

Claiming that the Government had begun the breakthrough in single-parent family allowances, Mrs Castle, Secretary of State for Social Services, outlined their achievements in pensions and other benefits since they took office last March.

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Co-op appeal for support

Labour Party members and trade unionists were urged to spread more money in their local Co-operative stores by Mr David Wise, secretary of the Co-operative Party.

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WEST EUROPE

Frau Meinhof jailed as Bonn reveals anarchist network

From Gretel Spitzer Berlin, Nov 29—Frau Ulrike Meinhof, the alleged leader of the Baader-Meinhof group, was today sentenced to eight years' imprisonment by a West Berlin court for complicity in attempted murder.

Documents concerning the activities of anarchists in Germany. Copies of 29 documents included, most of which were found in the cells of arrested members of Baader-Meinhof gang.

The charge was in connexion with the freeing, four years ago by armed men, of Herr Andreas Baader, her alleged co-leader of the group. A man was shot and wounded in the incident.

The activities of the Frau Meinhof group and several other groups were working for the destruction of the Federal Republic in West Germany.

Opposition saves French abortion reform law

From Richard Wigg Paris, Nov 29—France's abortion laws, which were liberalized in 1970, are to be re-examined and brought up to date.

meantime battle of M d'Estaing's six months Presidency underlines determination to reform change France after his last years conflicts with Gaullist forces and on 5 cases as abortionists Catholic clergy in a country who largely vote into office.

The President's own Independent Republican Party, ironically, showed the greatest resistance to his avowed determination to change the law.

The expense will not by the National Health but those genuinely in funds. Shocked by the strict residential qual on foreigners.

Vatican denial of health risk to pilgrims

From Our Correspondent Rome, Nov 29—The Vatican's chief organizer of Holy Year celebrations today dismissed suggestions that the influx of pilgrims to Rome next year could create serious health hazards.

W Germans Icelandic boats from landing

Bonn, Nov 29—Icelandic fishing boats have been banned from landing West German ports in retaliation for the seizure of a West German trawler off Iceland last day, the mayor of Bremen today.

Portuguese Army warns

Lisbon, Nov 29—Senior Vasco Goncalves, the Portuguese Prime Minister, has warned the Portuguese Army to avoid getting involved in partisan political conflicts.

self in partisan conflict. He said it was not soldiers should be made to vote, but he added are the men who ha arms, we use these ar these arms can only b for the service of our pe

WEST EUROPE AND OVERSEAS

Archbishop Makarios tells Athens crowd that he wants peace in Cyprus but without humiliation

From Mario Modiano. Athens, Nov 29. Archbishop Makarios, the president of Cyprus, told a mass meeting in Athens today that he was going back to Cyprus to offer the Turkish Cypriots the olive branch of peace—but not earth and water—the symbols of humiliation and submission.

He said, however, that he would not return to Cyprus until the return of democracy in Greece and paid tribute to the victims of the junta. He said: "By their impudent action they opened the gates for Turkey's invasion of Cyprus. He found solace in the fact that thanks to the sacrifice of Cyprus, democracy had been restored in Greece."

He did, however, hail the return of democracy in Greece and paid tribute to the victims of the junta. He said: "By their impudent action they opened the gates for Turkey's invasion of Cyprus. He found solace in the fact that thanks to the sacrifice of Cyprus, democracy had been restored in Greece."

Turkey's Cabinet voted out by 358-17

From Our Correspondent Ankara, Nov 29. Sadi Irmak's "above crisis" Cabinet, made up mostly of civil servants, academics and independent senators, today became the first government in over 50 years to be voted out of office.

Turkish democracy is held in its first confidence since before Parliament. Seventy-year-old Mr Irmak, a doctor of medicine and an independent senator, was none less wildly applauded as he stepped to the lectern after being routed by 358 votes to 17.

"I know that your vote of confidence was not directed personally against me or my colleagues," he said, and added that the result of the vote was "normal" since most ministers considered his Cabinet unconstitutional.

Mr Irmak went to visit President Kocuturk after the vote to submit his resignation, reviving the two-and-a-half-month-old government which had been latent since Mr Irmak became Prime Minister on November 13.

He was asked to remain in office until a new government is formed, but no immediate solution appeared likely. In fact, no one seems to want Mr Irmak at a time when the country is going through a difficult period.

Such intractable issues as inflation, shortages and Cyprus, the only exception is Mr Irmak's social democratic Republican People's Party which, with 187 of the 450 seats, is the biggest group in Parliament.

None of the other parties—conservatives—seems to be in a position to form a long or even short-term coalition with Mr Irmak. Furthermore, they repeatedly failed to reach agreement among themselves.

Mr Irmak said that he would resign only if he were to form a coalition government. The only solution appears to be early elections. Although all parties are agreed on this, they have failed to agree on a date.

The effects of the Government crisis are expected to be assessed at a meeting tomorrow of the National Security Council.

Children among 30 injured in base blasts

From Our Correspondent Saigon, Nov 29.—A bomb blast at Da Nang air base blew in a long series of explosions, injuring at least 95 civilians, including 50 school children and 10 soldiers, the military command said.

The explosions began at midday and were still ringing at mid-afternoon. The command said that their cause was not known.

Hasty oil talks feared by US as sure disaster

From Frank Vogl United States Economics Correspondent Washington, Nov 29. The United States firmly opposes the start of any formal negotiations between oil-consuming and oil-producing countries at this time, believing that such negotiations can only secure the financial collapse of major industrial countries.

Mr Thomas Enders, Assistant Secretary of State for Economic Affairs, asserted in a speech at Yale University that "the producers will not be willing in present circumstances to negotiate on a more formal ratification of their current advantage. Like the German reparations agreement, it would make financial collapse inevitable. Thus the consumers must not attempt to negotiate now."

Mr Enders, who has played a leading role in designing America's new international energy policy, clearly outlined the real fears of the United States and added substantial detail to the policy initiatives recently unveiled by Dr Kissinger, the Secretary of State.

He emphasized that a detailed programme of coordinated action by the main industrial countries was desperately urgent. He also pointed out that the energy crisis has already significantly weakened the political stability of many countries and that "it is no accident that the Soviet Union and China, securely self-sufficient in energy, with a sustained growth rate, have begun to analyse and exploit a great new source of capital."

Mr Enders said that it had to be realized that oil prices will not decline significantly for quite some time to come. The first priority for the chief oil-consuming countries must therefore be to work out the maximum level of dependence on imported oil that they are willing to accept in the future.

Beyond this, these countries must take national decisions to increase greatly oil conservation; they must participate in a new financial arrangement capable of ensuring the stability of the international financial system, and they must attempt "to define a new relationship of equilibrium between producers and consumers, one in which producers' hopes for long-term income can be balanced with consumers' need for lower immediate prices."

He emphasized that the belief that a price reduction would solve all the present difficulties was quite false.

M Giscard sends out invitations for EEC summit

From Our Own Correspondent Paris, Nov 29. President Giscard d'Estaing today sent out the formal letters of invitation to the eight heads of government for the EEC summit in Paris, set for December 9 and 10. A letter also has gone to M. Francois-Xavier Ortoli, president of the Brussels Commission.

M Giscard told reporters last night that he had had a 45-minute telephone conversation with the summit with Herr Schmidt, the West German Chancellor, and intended to have another talk with him next week.

"We have a lot to do to prepare for the meeting," the French President said. Making public his discussions with Bonn was seen in Paris as an attempt to rebut press reports that the West German Chancellor is disappointed now with the fruits of his friendship with M Giscard.

French TV strike to go on over weekend

From Our Own Correspondent Paris, Nov 29. Striking journalists and technicians at ORTF, the French state television and radio network, have voted to extend their protest stoppage until Monday evening. This means that millions of French viewers will see only skeleton programmes throughout the weekend.

The union leaders declared today that 300 more employees, besides the 260 journalists involved, would be left without jobs by the reorganization at ORTF. M André Rossi, the Government's chief spokesman, who is also in charge of the reorganization, today said that the Union of Nations officials were expected to make direct appeals to the oil producers for their help in feeding the world.

Summonsed here for urgent consultations to meet the needs of starving nations in Asia and Africa over the next eight months, the exporters said 7,500,000 tons of food were needed and available, India, Bangladesh and other potential recipients took part in the talks.

"We found the food," said Deputy Assistant Secretary of Agriculture, as the delegates spent the morning assessing available supplies and working out what wheat and other grain would be committed for commercial sales.

He added that another two million tons of wheat were also on hand to meet the needs in industrial countries.

The meeting, called by Mr Adedeji Osofisan, Director General of the FAO, estimated that exporters could provide for needy nations 5,500,000 tons of wheat, 1,500,000 tons of corn and about 500,000 tons of other foodstuffs.

A resolution was adopted protesting against the failure of the United Nations General Assembly, the Administration and their organs to protect retired and active staff against the effects of inflation and the devaluation of the dollar.

UN employees stop work in Geneva protest

From Our Correspondent Geneva, Nov 29. An all-morning strike today by 7,000 employees of the United Nations and related agencies in Geneva was described as a complete success.

In the Palais des Nations, at least 80 per cent of the staff were said to have stayed away from their offices, most of them attending a crowded protest meeting.

A resolution was adopted protesting against the failure of the United Nations General Assembly, the Administration and their organs to protect retired and active staff against the effects of inflation and the devaluation of the dollar.

Shires' deaths will not mean new export curbs

By Maurice Corina. No changes to the British Government's controls over the export of horses are thought necessary by the Ministry of Agriculture after the disclosure that 12 Shire horses died after their export to Nigeria issued.

However, the department yesterday said that the department's animal health division was always willing to discuss with intending exporters any potential animal disease hazard that might be encountered.

The prize Shire horses died of African horse sickness, a viral disease, after their arrival in Kano, northern Nigeria. News of their death, which was reported in The Times, came as a surprise to the Shire Horse Society, which helped in their supply, as well as to breeders.

But the Ministry of Agriculture yesterday stated that it had received notification of what had happened. The export deal was arranged by the Flower Group, whose efforts to save the animals with vaccine and other drugs failed.

A ministry spokesman added that British controls could only go so far for animal protection. When the animals had left the country there were obvious difficulties in ensuring their continued protection. A ban on exports to certain areas was thought unnecessary even if this was a tragic case.



Mrs Happy Rockefeller leaves hospital in New York with her husband yesterday after her second operation for breast cancer.

Russian attack on China leaders

Moscow, Nov 29.—Mr Podgorny, the Soviet President, said today that on the whole his country was satisfied with relations with the United States, France and West Germany, despite their recent changes of leadership. Speaking in Dushanbe, the capital of Tadzhikistan, he told a rally on the republic's fifteenth anniversary that the new American, French and West German leaders were resolved to continue the course of détente with the Soviet Union set by their respective predecessors.

"The country's economy experiences serious difficulties, the principles of party development, of socialist democracy and legality are grossly violated. The Marxist-Leninist teaching has been replaced by social-chauvinist ideas of Maoism."

On a much warmer note, President Podgorny said the Soviet Union and the United States had firmly resolved to continue "increasing the scope and intensity of joint efforts aimed at improving bilateral relations."

He stated: "The world justly assessed the results of the repeated often-stated Soviet desire to mend fences with the Chinese."

"While persistently exposing the theory and practice of Maoism, we aim at the same time to normalize relations with China, and establish confidence and friendship between our great peoples. In this we see our sacred international duty."

He criticized the Peking leaders for being unsuccessful in efforts to better the life of the Chinese people.

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Grain trade nations promise aid to starving

Rome, Nov 29.—In talks boycotted by the Soviet Union and China, the United States and other big grain exporters said today that they would supply the food to feed the world's hungriest nations provided there was agreement on who should foot the bill. This amounts to nearly \$2,000m (£870m).

Talks on how to finance the food for the starving millions went on into the evening, with some delegates taking a break for snacks and cocktails at a reception offered by the head of the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO).

The chief American delegate said conference participants had agreed to put up some of the money, but further details would be worked out.

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Mr Butz apologizes for papal joke

Washington, Nov 29.—President Ford today personally reprimanded Mr Earl Butz, Secretary of Agriculture, for repeating a joking reference to the Pope in a mocking Italian accent and forced Mr Butz to apologize to anyone who may have been offended.

Mr Ron Nessen, White House press secretary, said Mr Ford felt the public explanation which Mr Butz issued earlier in the day was "inadequate" and Mr Butz agreed to "elaborate" on his statement.

A few minutes later, Mr Butz issued the same statement, adding that "I sincerely apologize for any part I played" in the controversy.

Mr Nessen said that although Mr Ford admonished Mr Butz for the remark, he did not feel the agriculture secretary should be dismissed because of it. Mr Butz aroused the anger of Roman Catholic prelates and others with his "off the record" reference to the Pope while discussing population and birth control. "He no play a the same; he no make a the rules,"

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Riddle of currents in MP's disappearance

By Michael Horsnell. The School of Oceanography at Miami has been asked to investigate the possibility that Mr John Stonehouse, the MP who vanished last week, was swept out to sea by the strongest currents there for 50 years. This was disclosed yesterday by Mrs Barbara Stonehouse, who believes that her husband has drowned despite rumours that he did not go swimming.

At her home in Andover, Hampshire, she told her sister, Mrs Eileen Choules, who lives in America, is keeping a waiting briefcase for him and has made an approach to the School of Oceanography.

"We have discovered that the currents that day were stronger than for 50 years, conditions which meant we should be searching in other areas. There was also an electric storm at 6 pm that day and he could have been hit. There are still possibilities which we must explore. All we can do is hope that somewhere the body will turn up."

She said he was an experienced long-distance ocean swimmer. Mr Stonehouse, Labour MP for Walsall, North, and a former Postmaster-General, disappeared while on a business trip and was last seen wearing only bathing trunks, but police are mystified that his body has not been recovered.

Mrs Stonehouse yesterday dismissed speculation that he chose to disappear because of business difficulties or for personal reasons. She also dismissed speculation about his apparent political failure when his ministerial career seemed well set.

Mr Stonehouse, aged 49, had served as Minister of Aviation and Minister of State, Technology, before becoming Postmaster-General. But speculation about his apparent fall from grace spread when he was not offered a ministerial post by Mr Wilson when Labour won the February general election.

Mrs Stonehouse said that her husband had been offered the post of Shadow Minister of Aviation when Labour lost the 1970 election and because he turned that down was not offered a post earlier this year. She told me: "His position was that he wanted to concentrate on business for several years and then come back to active leadership politics. Because he turned down that offer in 1970 he was not offered any other position. There was not any disappointment and there

is no connexion between his business activities and his not being offered a position. All this is irrelevant."

Mrs Stonehouse said their marriage was a happy one, that there had been no recent threats against his life, and that when she had driven him to Heathrow airport for his departure for America "he was perfectly normal."

Mr Phillip Gaye, Mr Stonehouse's personal assistant, returned to Britain on Thursday from Miami where he assisted police in their inquiries and has told Mrs Stonehouse that all possible checks have been made into a possible international disappearance by her husband.

Mr Stonehouse's biggest business venture was the launching of the British Bangladesh Trust in July 1972, which was re-named in March the London Capital Group, and became a public company with a number of subsidiaries.

Two directors have resigned from the Bangladesh Trust in July 1972, the merchant banking company which was the former British Bangladesh Trust before it was re-named, was formed to provide banking services to the Bengal and has told Mrs Stonehouse that all possible checks have been made into a possible international disappearance by her husband.

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Manila detainees end fast after 11 days

Manila, Nov 29.—Mr Eugenio Lopez, publisher of the banned Manila Chronicle, and Mr Sergio Osmena, a member of a prominent political family, have broken a fast after 11 days in protest over the arrest of two journalists without trial, their wives said today. They were taken to a military hospital for treatment.

The martial law government was expected to reciprocate by releasing other prisoners starting tomorrow and by easing the terms of the two men's detention until they are released conditionally early next year, reliably informed sources said.

The two men were arrested in November, 1972, in a case involving an assassination plot against President Marcos and President Suharto of Indonesia, who made a state visit here in February 1972.

According to a copy of charges filed on August 8, 1972, Mr Osmena and Mr Lopez were among 12 men named as part of a syndicate planning the killing of President Marcos and President Suharto during the visit.

The Government had no comment on the breaking of the fast or on the charges. Government sources said that among detainees due to be released was Mr Lorenzo Tanada, son of the former senator who has been a legal adviser to the wives of Mr Lopez and Mr Osmena—AP.

Harold Evans writes from Racine, Wisconsin: World press leaders meeting here have protested directly to President Marcos the continued imprisonment without trial of Mr Lopez. The editors and broadcasters met under the auspices of the International Press Institute, the American Society of Newspaper Editors, the Inter-American Press Association and the Society of Professional Journalists, Sigma Delta Chi, to discuss worldwide cooperation between press, radio and television journalists, to defend freedom of information and opinion whenever it is threatened or suppressed.

As individuals, the participants cabled President Marcos demanding that Mr Lopez be set free or brought immediately to trial in open court if there is a legitimate charge against him.

They said they had learnt with alarm that Mr Lopez had gone on hunger strike. "His continued imprisonment without due process is an evident violation of human rights that is deplored by freedom-loving people everywhere," said the cable.

Paris Springboks protest

From Our Own Correspondent Paris, Nov 29. About 300 demonstrators followed a banner which read: "Yes to rugby, no to racialism."

Two devices exploded on Wednesday night, on the eve of the arrival of the Springboks team in Paris, in front of the South African Tourist Office and of a building which formerly housed the South African Embassy. They did not damage

Paris, Nov 29.—Mr Vladimir Osipov, aged 36, a historian and founder of an underground journal, has been arrested by the police, friends reported.

Mintoff visit. Mr Dom Mintoff, Malta's Prime Minister, arrived in London for a 24-hour visit to his two daughters.

President Amin takes over. Kampala, Nov 29.—President Amin of Uganda has taken over the post of foreign minister from Miss Elizabeth Bagaya, whom he dismissed yesterday alleging she had made a bid to a European in a Paris airport toilet. Radio Uganda announced.

Jim Braddock dies. North Bergen, New Jersey, Nov 29.—Jim Braddock, known as boxing's "Cinderella man" after he won the world heavyweight championship from Max Baer as a 10 to 1 underdog in 1935, died at his home here aged 58.

Sea talks adjourned. Moscow, Nov 29.—Soviet and Norwegian negotiators completed their first round of talks on dividing rights to the strategic and potentially lucrative Barents Sea. The negotiations will probably be resumed in Oslo early next year.

Hijacker gives up. Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, Nov 29.—Canadian Pacific Airlines said a hijacker who had forced an airliner in land here after wounding a stewardess and asking to be taken to a "foreign country". He surrendered in Royal Canadian Mounted Police.

Deficit budget. Copenhagen, Nov 29.—The Danish Government, confronted with rising unemployment and falling consumption, proposed a budget for the 1975-76 fiscal year carrying a 2,388m kroner (£218m) deficit.

Angola changes. Luanda, Nov 29.—Admiral Rosa Coutinho said that Angola's military junta had been abolished and that he had been appointed provisional high Commissioner for the Portuguese territory.

Czech protest. About 30 people, holding burning torches, demonstrated peacefully outside the Czechoslovak Embassy in London demanding the release of Czechoslovak political prisoners detained since the overthrow of the Dubcek regime in 1968.

Minister resigns. Lisbon, Nov 29.—Professor Vitorino Magalhães Godinho resigned today as Minister of Education and Culture in the Portuguese Provisional Government. A spokesman said he was leaving the Government for private reasons.

Historian arrested. Moscow, Nov 29.—Mr Vladimir Osipov, aged 36, a historian and founder of an underground journal, has been arrested by the police, friends reported.

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SPORT

Cricket

Australia falter after the Chappell brothers put them back in game

From John Woodcock Cricket Correspondent Brisbane, Nov 29

The first and the last hours of the first day's play in the first Test match which started here today belonged to England...

Underwood dismissed both Greg Chappell and Russ Edwards with...

England fielded well, none better than the captain, and the five catches which came their way they bled, the first by Amiss...

had their first chance to cheer when Greg Chappell drove back...

England's last Test match against Australia at the Oval in 1972 they put on 211. At Wellington in March they added 264 together against New Zealand...



Forpeth's off stump flies back and Willis shows his elation

Forpeth figure, he must have known that another failure in the second innings would almost certainly be the end of him...

The future of the Gillette Cup, the original knockout competition between the counties since 1963, depends on a crucial meeting between the sponsors and a sub-

Rugby Union Only all-Lions pack bars the way

By Peter West Rugby Correspondent

It would be a wonderful achievement by Andy Leslie's All Blacks triangle. But Robertson's penetrating runner at outside centre...

in midfield partly because Duncan Robertson at stand-off has rarely been given the space to set his centres going...

better set-piece player than Ben nett. There is a nice contrast a centre between the sharpness of Preece and the strength of Mar...

Test scorecard

Table with columns for batsmen and bowlers, showing runs, wickets, and overs for both teams.

Hockey

Decision day at one point of the compass By Sydney Friskin

The focal point of weekend hockey is Weymouth where the puzzle in the western group of the county championship sponsored by...

Football

Importance of being in the league charts By Norman Fox

A disc jockey rather than a football reporter might be better qualified to write these notes on today's programme...

Boxing Why Ali's next opponent could be Bugner

By Neil Allen Boxing Correspondent

Muhammad Ali, talking almost non-stop for 45 minutes, at the London Hilton yesterday, paid more than lip service to the pretensions of Britain's Joe Bugner as his possible next opponent...

French plan to stoke fire in the boiler room

From a South African Rugby Correspondent Paris, Nov 29

Hannes Marais, the old soldier of South African rugby, will fight his last battle for France at the Stade Princes tomorrow, when the Springboks play France in the second international...

American gets chance on wing for Oxford

By Gordon Allan

Far those not confined to house by a cold in the head television or both, a trip to the following rugby matches can be recommended...

Squash rackets

Top Cambridge two win after match is lost

By Rex Bellamy

Oxford yesterday levelled their squash rackets series with Cambridge by winning the university...

Rackets

Wellington find walls are Winchester's weakness

By Our Rackets Correspondent

Wellington's first pair, Nigel Hurst-Brown and Oliver Case, lost a lead of two games and 12-7...

Yesterday's results

Table listing football results from various divisions, including scores and goals.

Players equals record

Rio de Janeiro, Nov 29—Garry player, of South Africa—today equalled the previous record...

Richmond's just reward

By Peter Marson Rosslyn Park 16 Richmond 16

While Richmond sat on a small lead of three points for three parts of the match under Rosslyn Park's floodlights at Roehampton last evening...

Tennis

GYMNASIUM Australian hard court championship: Men's singles quarter-final...

Cheerless night for Villa supporters

By Arthur Osman Aston Villa 0 Oxford Utd 0

Little, who snap and activity was often in marked contrast to the stodgey game, almost succeeded in giving Villa a win...

Rowing

CAMBRIDGE: Fellowship Cup: J. L. M. Marshall beat G. W. Fenn...

When football was fun and a sweeper was someone who pushed a broom

The roaring fifties could come alive again

Football in a Britain emerging from the war was, as our Football Correspondent, Geoffrey Green, once said: 'The game of the people...'

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SPORT

Racing

Weight advantage should help Summerville

Michael Phillips racing correspondent. Most of the prize money at Sandown Park today has been won by Benson and Hedges, whose name is incorporated in the principal races, Tingle Creek, one of the most exciting performances ever seen at Sandown Park...

Our Editor and Artist are the two to consider for the Benson and Hedges Novices' Steeplechase. Brown Admiral's win at Sandown Park yesterday would have the day, but neither Floating Pond nor any of the other runners saw the way that William Pitt went...

Loon rolled over him leaving him winded and badly shaken. He got up his ride on Floating Pond, the favourite for the second division of the Regent's Novices' Hurdle at the end of the day...

A prize worth winning in any language

Peter Easterby may have the right answer with his seven-year-old Easby Abbey, the winner of 13 hurdle races of which six have been at Market Rasen...

Young rider has his first success

Thomson Jones saddled two winners—Ballyilly and Voltown—at Market Rasen yesterday. Ballyilly gave the Newmarket trainer's jockey, Stephen Smith...

Sandown Park programme

Table listing Sandown Park racing programme with details for POND STEEPLECHASE HURDLE, BENSON & HEDGES NOVICES STEEPLECHASE, and BENSON & HEDGES HURDLE.

Chepstow programme

Table listing Chepstow racing programme with details for BRISTOL DRAGONARA HURDLE, LIS BERNI INNS STEEPLECHASE, and 1.45 WILLS PREMIER STEEPLECHASE.

Market Rasen programme

Table listing Market Rasen racing programme with details for SEACROFT HANDICAP HURDLE, 2.15 ENCYCLOPEDIA BRITANNICA STEEPLECHASE, and 1.15 WHITE HART STEEPLECHASE.

Sedgefield programme

Table listing Sedgefield racing programme with details for BLACK LION STEEPLECHASE, HARPINGTON HURDLE, and DUN COW HURDLE.

Sandown Park selections

By Our Racing Correspondent. 1.0 Norwegian Flag. 1.30 Our Edition. 2.0 Legal Tender. 2.30 SUMMERVILLE is specially recommended. 3.0 Frigid Fred. 3.30 Arctic Actor.

Market Rasen selections

By Our Northern Correspondent. 1.45 Lok Yec. 1.15 Supermaster. 1.45 Firby Gold. 2.15 Easby Abbey. 2.45 FIVE RED is specially recommended. 3.15 Crucislan.

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Weekend fixtures

Table listing weekend fixtures for various football divisions including Third division, Scottish first division, and Scottish second division.

Scottish first division

Table listing Scottish first division fixtures including Clyde v Hearts, Dundee v Partick, and Dunfermline v Airdrie.

Rugby League

Table listing Rugby League fixtures including First Division (Bramley v Wakefield Trinity) and Second Division (Oldham v Batley).

Tomorrow

Table listing fixtures for tomorrow including Rugby union (Gloucester v Newport), Rugby league (Bradford v Leeds), and Cross-country (Hornets GC v Oxford University).

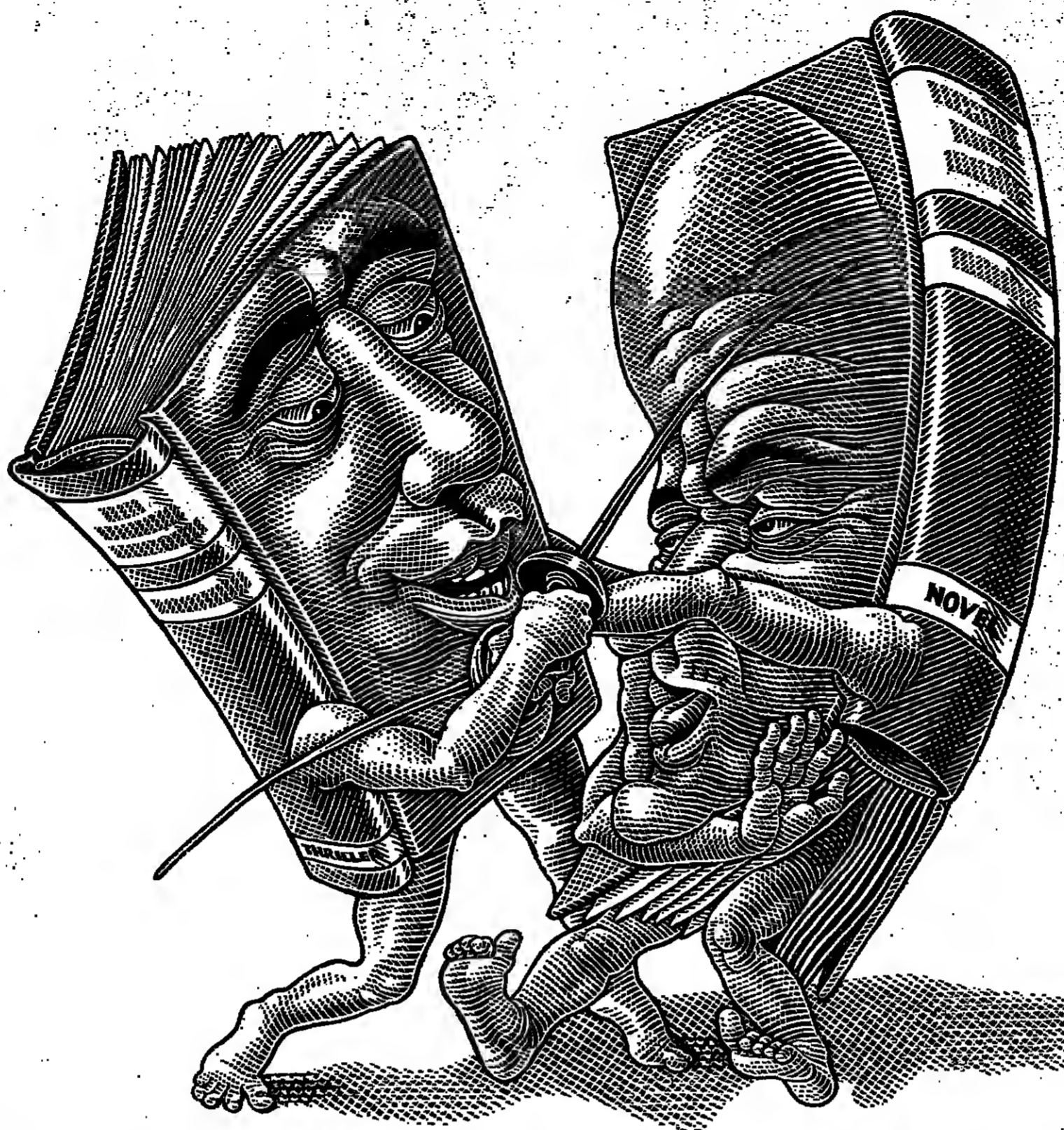


Illustration Bill Sanderson

A better sort of rubbish

An inquiry into the state of the thriller by Eric Ambler

"Oh I never read thrillers. That sort of rubbish simply doesn't interest me."

Or words to that effect.

They used to be said with the easy assurance of one voicing a prejudice he knows to be widely shared. When they are said nowadays, and they are still sometimes to be heard over the brassy, the speaker's manner is likely to be challenging, even belligerent. The old polite disdain has gone. As he mouths the word "thrillers" he converts it from a comparatively inoffensive noun into a lumbering term of abuse.

The weapon will be aimed at an assortment of targets, many of them apparently unrelated. Detective, crime and spy novels will inevitably get lumped together in the centre in spite of their essential differences; but also there in the field of fire will be the neo-Gothic romance, vampire horror tales, black-magic pornography and the work of writers as disparately preposterous as Mary Stewart and Mickey Spillane. Even science fiction may not escape.

Overkill? Perhaps, but he is in no mood for half-measures. What must be deflected, yet again, is that picturesque old fortress, the serious novel. It is undermined at present and morale within is said to be low.

Its guardians have not always needed powder and shot. There was a period when they could rely for protection almost exclusively upon that ring of psychological fortifications thrown up by the followers of Henry James and George Moore; but as the engineers died off there was erosion and slipping. Gaps presently appeared. Through them aroiled various ill-natured persons—disaffected critics, Punch cartoonists and students from correspondence-schools of journalism—who gathered to jeer at the sentinels above, to emit cat-calls and to deface the battlements with graffiti announcing that the entire structure was in a state of collapse.

The garrison replied with stink-bombs—Logan Pearsall Smith's assertion that persons who wrote for money did not write for fun; among the smaller fatalities lobbed over the parapet—and waited for the besiegers to make complete fools of themselves.

This they soon did. Happily, the "throw" words, high and low, are now unfashionable; but between the wars they were much handed about, often by persons who should have known better, but mostly by those who did not. The garrison exploited the situation by counterattacking on the tuppenny-literary front. The thriller was hard hit. Informed

from the battlements that it was the literary counterpart of the comic strip, an addition of the immature or those of limited intelligence, many of the groundlings lost their heads and retaliated by declaring defiantly, though not always truthfully, that they considered themselves lowbrows and that they preferred a rattling good yarn to all that highrow twaddle.

The altercation—it could scarcely be then he called a controversy—droned on. Few young novelists of the period bothered to listen, though one or two were disturbed by the noise.

For instance, in the early thirties Graham Greene decided that, in order to make a little money, he would write a thriller under a pseudonym. His publisher readily accepted the thriller but not the pseudonym. If the book were to be published under a name other than Greene's own, he said, the royalty advance would have to be reduced. Since Greene wanted the best advance he could get, he dropped the pseudonym. However, to avoid compromising his nascent reputation as a serious novelist he labelled the thriller "An Entertainment".

He was fortunate in his publisher. In many of the bigger publishing houses then, there existed highrow-lowbrow demarcation lines which were very difficult indeed to cross, or matter in which direction the trip was to be made. A pseudonym was considered essential to the move, and the thicker the veil of secrecy that covered it, the better.

Some years ago I accompanied a British film producer on a tour of a studio in Bangkok. In a corridor of the small dressing-room building I noticed a Buddhist shrine and asked our guide why it was there.

"So that the actors can pray for humility before they go on the set," I was told.

The producer overheard and was immediately interested. "They actually do pray for humility?" he wanted to know. "Certainly." The Thai manager seemed surprised at the question. "It is good for them." The producer thought for a moment and then said wistfully that he didn't think it would work at Pinewood.

I recall the incident because it reminded me of the attitude of my first British publishers towards those on their list who wrote detective stories and thrillers. While we were not required actually to pray for humility we were left in no doubt that it was expected of

us. Only serious authors, or highly profitable ones, were regularly received by directors of the company. Our affairs were dealt with by the editor of the religious book department, for whom we constituted a minor chore.

He was a ruly-poly man with an impish smile and a repertoire of Latin tags. Now and again, for our amusement, he would parody the speech eccentricities of some of his theological authors. He once took me fishing for skate off Weymouth. To his business dealings with us he was kind but always firm. When my first book was published I was instructed to report to his office waiting room. On a table were several piles of the book. I was given a seat at the table and then told to write to his dictation on the title page of each copy. He read from a long list: "To Hal, all the best from . . ." "To Art, with best wishes . . ." and so on.

After a minute or two I stopped writing. "But who are these people?"

"Booksellers, of course. Hal is in Sydney, Art is in Cape Town."

"Well, shouldn't I put in their full names? As I've never met them it would be polite, wouldn't it?"

He was patient. "As you please. It doesn't really matter what you put. Just dirty the copies."

"Dirty them?"

"Write in them. All these overseas booksellers get one copy free for themselves. If it isn't dirtied they'll just put it into stock and sell it. We don't want that, do we? Now, let's get on."

That was the first lesson. Others came later. One of his dicta was: "If you write two books a year, and can maintain your own miserable standards, it is just possible that you may eventually earn a living from this stuff." He preferred the detective story to the thriller—mostly, we readers of detective stories—but the preference was slight. We all belonged, he used to tell us, to the Lower Orders, sometimes adding with jovial mock-ferocity the word "scum".

That was in 1936.

Circumstances have changed since then, of course. With spy stories and thrillers sometimes appearing on best-seller lists, few publishers would now describe the authors of such works, however jovially, as scum; not, at least, in the authors' hearing. Though I am far from suggesting that inclu-

sion in a best-seller list is evidence of literary or any other sort of merit, we must suppose that when novels bearing that once-fatal label "thriller" are to be seen on the coffee tables of book-club subscribers something has changed.

But what? Has the British public's literary taste been debased along with, and at something like the same rate as, its currency? It is possible. Or is the present state of affairs transitory? Are there worthier storytellers already at work—the heirs of Wells, Bennett, Galsworthy and Maugham—awaiting the moment when they will be moving in to retrieve the situation? Also possible, but unlikely I think.

There may, of course, be a psychoanalytical explanation of the phenomenon.

Dr Charles Rycroft sees the reading of detective novels as a form of manic defence against oedipal guilt. If he were prepared to include the thriller in his diagnosis—and, since he regards Wilkie Collins's *The Moonstone* as a representative example of the detective novel, there seems to be no reason why he should not—it could be that the growing respectability of the thriller as a literary form is really no more than evidence of an increasing incidence of neurosis in the reading public.

A social scientist with time on his hands may care to examine the notion.

My own explanation of the new state of affairs owes nothing to the social sciences. I believe that, to use the language of the market place, the product has been improved; and I do not mean by that made more pretentious. Let any who doubt the improvement try rereading for a time the novels of, say, Sydney Harter and William Le Queux. Or let them take a retrospective look at the adventures of Richard Hannay and sample again the delights of *Apples*. Most, I think, will soon be longing for fresher air; and if it is objected that thrillers are not for reading, the answer must be that that must not be but that more and more are. Writers as good as Geoffrey Household, Len Deighton and John le Carré are and are. They are reread, moreover, not to find out again what did it in what happened—any more than the Sherlock Holmes stories are reread for those reasons—but because their authors are storytellers who write engagingly of internal worlds which have, or seem to have, illuminating connexions with perceived reality.

Yet the word "thriller"

attached to a work of fiction remains pejorative; and not only in the English-speaking countries. I was interviewed recently by a young woman from a Zurich newspaper. Her mission was to find out from authors living and working in Switzerland what they themselves read and why.

On these occasions one is always tempted to try playing the game of interviewing the interviewer. When I asked what she was reading the response was immediate and surprising: not something in the Gunter Grass area, as I had expected, but Sir Walter Scott. She was halfway through *The Heart of Midlothian* and did not seem happy with it.

I probed a little more and she unburdened herself. She was a passionate admirer of the poet and novelist Lermontov. Well, Lermontov had praised in glowing terms the novels of Walter Scott, so now she was reading them. To her horror she was finding it difficult. In fact, she confessed, she had not been able to finish *Rob Roy* and there was *Ivanhoe* yet to come. She dreaded the prospect. How could this be? Lermontov could not have been wrong. It must be her fault.

Wishing to soothe, I reminded her that lots of 19th century European romances had fallen for the Waverley novels, and that Lermontov, romantic of romantics, had, though a Russian, been of Scottish ancestry.

"When I knew that I was to interview you," she said, "I read two of your books. Do you know, they are quite good." She strove with only moderate success to contain her amazement. "Why is it," she went on, "that I can read your books easily, but not those of Sir Walter Scott which Lermontov says are so good?"

I suggested that Scott may have been unlucky in his German translator.

She dismissed that impatiently—she was reading him in English—and returned to the attack. "But I enjoyed your books. Why?"

"Perhaps you found some of the characters entertaining."

"No," she said emphatically. "Your books are in no way entertaining."

She was, I should explain, being kind. There is in the vocabulary of German literary criticism a compound noun, greatly dreaded by both writers and publishers. It can be translated as "entertainment-novel" but is much more damaging than it looks in English. Once applied to an author's work it

is there for life, a permanent degradation, a badge of shame. My interviewer, having felt obliged for professional reasons to do a little literary slumming, had been disconcerted by what she had found; but she wasn't going to slander me by calling it entertainment.

Mandarin reviewers, both here and in America, drawn by curiosity or coaxed into reading one of the newer thrillers, occasionally react in the same way, with surprise and generosity. We may wonder, it is true, if some of the earlier opinions which occasionally surprised us may have been formed by glimpses caught through taxi windows of posters advertising James Bond films, but we are still grateful. The fact that their surprise will usually be expressed through one of those statements beginning with "not just" or "more than", or "very far from being the conventional", can't be helped.

Judging from a recent survey made of thriller jacket copy, the ultimate accolade, "cannot be dismissed as mere entertainment", has been frequently bestowed of late.

Entertainment is, of course, a much-abused word. Encrusted now with showbiz associations (earned laughter, juvenile pin stars, television money games and all that) it is barely recognizable. Is it worth salvaging?

W. S. Maugham used to think that it was. He considered that, where the novel was concerned, entertainment was "the essential quality, without which no other quality avails. And the more intelligent the entertainment a novel offers, the better it is". He did not confuse entertainment with laughter. "Entertainment" is that which affords interest or amusement. It is a common error to suppose that in this sense amusement is the only one of importance. There is as much entertainment to be obtained from *Wuthering Heights* or *The Brothers Karamazov* as from *Tristram Shandy* or *Camilla*.

Conrad's *Under Western Eyes* and Simonon's *The Man Who Watched The Trains Go By* are also considerable entertainments; though neither could be described as rib-tickling.

I have never seen a stage play review which approved a production because it was not mere entertainment. Presumably, as it is assumed that a theatre's audience is here to be entertained, there is no need. What is in question is the skill, the wit and the intelligence, or lack of them, displayed by those concerned; and this holds true whether the offering is *Hamlet*

or *The Mousetrap*. While the producer of a miracle play to be performed in a cathedral might conceivably insist that his object was not to entertain his audience but only to improve and instruct, it would be injudicious of him to do so publicly. The playgoer, whether seated at stall or pew, expects to be entertained—that is, afforded interest and/or amusement—and is entitled to have that expectation fulfilled.

So is the reader of a novel, whether the subject of it is the existence of God or the events arising out of the perpetration of a crime. Let the critic write "more than just a melodrama," if he cares to; it will still not mean very much—he could be reviewing Faulkner's *Sanshiro* or Hammett's *The Maltese Falcon*—but at least he will not be suggesting that the provision of entertainment is a kind of literary depravity into which good novelists manage never to sink.

I have been postponing a difficult task, that of defining what I set out to discuss, the thriller.

It is an unhappy clown of a word and many attempts have been made to find a better. John Buchan's preference for "shocker", makes one think more of defective electrical appliances than books. In America, "mystery", a vague and often quite inappropriate catch-all term, is favoured by booksellers, though blurb-writers there will go to extravagant lengths to avoid it. Their conversion of the noun "suspense" into an adjective was one gimmick that succeeded for a while; but few stories characterized by an absence of suspense can have been written in any genre. "Suspense story" was a short-lived rautology. For a time "intrigue" was the vogue word, but it, too, lacked stamina and adjectives like "international" had to be brought in to lend it their clumsy support. "Spy-novel" is acceptable when the novel in question really is about spies; but quite really is about spies; but quite often now it is applied loosely to tales involving clandestine activities, such as gambling and gold-smuggling, which have nothing at all to do with espionage. For general use, at least on this side of the Atlantic, we seem to be stuck with "thriller".

The thriller is an extension of the fairy tale; it is melodrama so embellished as to create the illusion that the story being told, however unlikely, could be true.

Well, I made the attempt; but it won't do, I am afraid. Many novels not usually thought of as

thrillers—*Jane Eyre* comes to mind—could be described those terms. And how much the illusion really is illusion. Are both the writer of thrill and the conjurer sawing a half before an audience forming similar tricks? disbelief to be suspended to same extent in both cases? The thriller is entitled to a shrewder assessment of characteristics and worth.

Arnold Bennett once tried to define the difference between thrillers ("adventure novel as he sometimes chose to call them) and other novels.

What to read through, the adventure novel (the whole 1927) is proof that it has in it is "the story", the action of events. But few not depend first for their interest on mere narrative. In the majority of cases what holds us a fine novel is not the story but the originality and intensity of the author's mind, vision, which reveal themselves on every page, and of whose ceaseless activity you would miss a single manifestation.

Clear enough, though in very next paragraph he went to say of the novel that, most . . . you can derive satisfaction from a part of it than from the whole, be it the effect of them, far it being cumulative, may detract the pages turn. Few improve as they proceed.

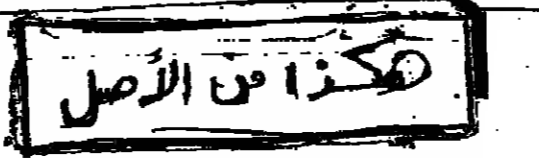
In other words, it was the exceptionally good serious novel that did not become boring and only the incompetent thriller that did. An odd proposition, then, but one that perhaps today more acceptably it needs to be only slightly restated.

Few thrillers depend now on their interest on mere narrative. What holds you in a thriller is what holds you in any other good novel, the originality and interest of the author's mind and vision. It is to read through any novel of you have started it is proof it has failed with you.

It should be noted that in new collected edition of novels of Graham Greene, in course of publication, subtitle, "An Entertainment" borne by some of his earlier works, has been dropped. The deletions were made by the author. His reputation as a major twentieth-century novelist is likely to remain unimpaired.

Eric Ambler's most recent novel *Doctor Frigo* was published by Weidenfeld & Nicolson on November 14.

© Eric Ambler 1974.



Films Showbiz glamour

motto at MGM was "Do It Right. Give It Right"; but all the studios in great days of Hollywood had the same idea. What the imperious of the business, you could not do better than the Best that Money could Buy. The principle was more dazzlingly evident in the costumes of the 100 costumes in the Metropolitan Museum's pantic and Glamorous Hollywood Design exhibition, which on Thursday, show Hollywood designers rivalling greater European couture chic and style, and outgunning Babylon itself in opulence.

was not always so. In the days actors and actresses expected to bring their clothes; and a smart coat like dress was more likely to be a job than acting skills. W. Griffith's wife recalled her husband, spotting a bit of millinery, would the actress, "I have on part you, Miss Hart, but I can your hat. I'll give you five if you will let Miss Hart wear your hat for this week". Indeed, you could earn more for your hat for your talent: "Clothes five dollars always, but hair and merry-making up went for three."

the movies moved to ywood and the foundations of great empires were laid, as not perhaps surprising so much riches should be ed into clothing the stars, as more than the new-rich to display. The immi- us who created the industry a visionaries who knew how to dream for the masses, was it without significance many of them had begun struggle to the top in the ing trade. Sam Goldwyn been in gloves, Marcus r in furs; Carl Laemmle run a clothing store. In ash, Wisconsin, William a "shrinking and expan- business. The great b Zukor (still alive and in his 102nd year) made first fortune in furs; and ing as he was in charge at mount there was a direc- tar fur should be used on audio costumes. Travis o, dressing Dietrich or le Lombard or Mae West, yed his ingenuity in dev- fur collars, cuffs, wraps muffs, lavishing on them treds of yards of sable and ne and white fox.

ers were recruited in the Howard Green—who died onked in Paris with Poiré Molyneux when he was d by Zukor's Famous s. Lasky company in 1923, us to dress Mary Pick-



Above: Two-piece evening dress and matching scarf designed by Travis Banton. Worn by Marlene Dietrich in 'Angel'.
Left: Lace negligee with wide hemline band of gold and rose metallic cloth. Worn by Lillian Gish in 'Way Down East'.

surface of jewelled pailies, thickly encrusted with rubies, diamonds, emeralds and pearls; while the draperies which float around her in the wind of *The Garden of Allah* are a startlingly iousubstantial diaphana.

The costumes had a positive creative function. David O. Selznick's published memoranda are full of directives in this respect. The costumes of *Gone with the Wind*, he declared, had to dramatize "much more than we have done to date... the chaotic fortunes of the people with whom we are dealing". The Metropolitan exhibition includes Vivien Leigh's costumes for the film, among them the green ball gown which Scarlett ran up out of the velvet drawing-room curtains when Tara's fortunes had reached their lowest ebb.

The costumes had to reflect

not only the drama, but the personalities also. The exhibition (arranged by Diana Vreeland, long-time editor of *Vogue*) shows how well they succeeded. Eves strung awkwardly on rangy silver costume mannequins (surely the Metropolitan could have done a little better?) they still proclaim their wearers. Pickford's little poor-girl outfits for *Little Annie Rooney* or *Tess of the Storm Country*, Mae West's lush sequined creations, Harlow's Art Deco draperies, Marjorie's frills and polka dots are unmistakable.

The galleries make a ghostly word of ideas. Here, a dress, empty shells vacated by their former occupants—are some of the most famous costumes of the movie dream-world: the dresses of Mae Murray in Stroheim's *The Merry Widow*,

of Garbo in *Camille*, *Karenina* and *Mata Hari* of Dietrich in *Blonde Venus* and *Orient Express*, of Jane Russell in *The French Line*. There is even Rita Hayworth's strapless *Gilda* dress which, she used to say, stayed in place for two very good reasons. Now we can see she was boasting: the costume is a tour de force of engineering in bone and padding, by the designer Jean Louis.

The earliest dress in the collection is Irene Castle's for *Patrol*, in 1917; then there are Lillian Gish's costumes for *Way Down East* (1920) and *Romola* (1924). The thrill of the opening party was to turn and find that the exquisite Gish had chosen the self-same moment for a critical inspection of her own costumes. Indeed, yes, she did recall who made them (the museum's own labelling is

inaccurate as well as culpably incurious). The elegant classical dress for *Way Down East* was created by the New York couturier Henri Bendel; but the *Romola* costume was done in Florence, by the customer of the Milan opera, "to get it absolutely right... By and large they did get them right. Even though Hollywood clothes were dictating the fashions of the day, the surprising aspect of the Metropolitan show is how timeless the best of them are: a supreme stylishness that remains undated, whether the dress was made in 1920 or 1950. At their best, a Greer, an Adrian, a Plunkett or a Banton made an art of sculpting out of fabric and fair woman.

David Robinson

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Bridge The weak overbid

closely-contested matches been won by the simple feat of asking to be led. The bidding has been led by South and West, a point count is under 10, so don't whatsoever that is lost a game before it is 4. He thinks that he can win, and he is prepared to play, so convinced that they will grab a try without venturing to a slam. When world-teams are engaged in come result of a preemptive

overbid cannot be foreseen. Game all; dealer North.

♠ 3 4 7
♥ 9 8 4 2
♦ 4 3
♣ 10 9 8 4 3 2

W N E S
♠ 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31 32

♠ A K S
♥ A K J
♦ A K J
♣ A

North South West East
No. of Tricks No. of Tricks No. of Tricks No. of Tricks

The contract does not look to

be a bargain and West actually went down 1100 when he appears to be strong enough to defeat a slam.

At the other table West bid Two Spades over the strong opening. North doubled to show that he had a minimum of six points, and after a series of cue bids South ended in Six Hearts.

On the lead of the ♠K the contract seems even more precarious than if West had led a spade. With on cue to the trump distribution declarer decided to play East for Three Hearts and Three Diamonds as to dispose of his losing club and losing spade on the long diamonds. He cashed the ♠AK and when the ♠Q fell there were 13 tricks.

The Hudson Institute's icy long-range weather forecast for the British economy is more readily explicable if one assumes—perhaps cynically—that an international team of Paris-based investigators on a visit to Britain would quickly realise that it was raining, and decide to meet their contracts in the hoodful of London restaurants that are liable to be recommended to people with Paris labels on their suitcases.

Now, whether or not it is true that Britain is "beyond all other countries class-ridden, with a grossly unequal distribution of wealth, and given to ostentatious display", casual observation of the West End restaurant scene undeniably gives scope for this impression to gain a foothold. Moreover, close questioning of the staff at the brought to mind the sole Régence (£2.25) of carré d'agneau aux deux mourettes (£5.95 for two) would reveal that native-born Englishmen prefer almost any employment to waiting at tables or peers, company directors, and advertising executives in warm and nearly clean restaurants; and that this leaves eager Portuguese, Turkish and Filipino commis with £50 a week each to repatriate to their families, at considerable cost to the starting balance.

never be a European butter or egg mountain again. But can the British afford the tastes of Marie Antoinette? We have to admit, however, that the pinky roasted grouse with puffly pommes soufflées and fresh salsify would be a cheering dish to eat while the rumblir waited; and if British industry had reinvested its capital as prudently as the Connaught has replenished its wine cellar over the years, the Hudson people could have stayed at home. We took note of a bottle of Ch Cheval Blanc '62 at £15.50, but even £5 or so buys a choice of claret and burgundy that not many Paris restaurants can match.

The team's next engagement was at another very British place, Simpson's in the Strand, chosen because it has been highly recommended in a restaurant guide much read by Frenchmen. The waiters, apart from a few lantern-jawed originals, seemed to be mostly immigrants. The scene, indeed, deserved a new version of the H. M. Bateman cartoon, reprinted on the back of the menu, about "the gentleman who asked the carver whether the meat was English or foreign". Not for the first time, we began to doubt the infallibility of French food critics here. The *rosbif* was indeed extraordinary by Paris standards, and the saddle of mutton too. We were correctly advised by our companion, a habitué of Simpson's, to eat nothing else whatsoever, unless it be the treacle roll, for they offered us "sod" and thick Yorkshire pudding which Mr Arthur Scargill would surely shake some of his Communist Board offered it to him for lunch, with potatoes and green leaves that had also been mercifully treated in the kitchen. The measure of wine supplied in carafes is stated together, on menu nor wine list, but seemed to us very neat. The only other useful thing our companion had to tell us was that the Bass is proper English beer, drawn by hand, so we drank that.

served us at least smiled where he could not comprehend. But the cold curried apple soup tasted of curry powder, and the chocolate and chestnut bombe tasted of mortals at all. Towards the end of the meal they burnt the toast for the staff loach, but this is an English tradition as old as King Alfred. Various people have said that Mr Carrier's carafes have deteriorated in quality; we think they are right.

The team's appreciative report on the restaurant at the new Berkeley Hotel—whither they were taken by a peer who had been a Gay Young Thing 50 years ago, in the heyday of the old Berkeley—contains a stray reference to "the best hotel dish for the price that we tasted this year, their rable de lièvre sauce poivrade (£1.75), garoished with chestnut tartlets made with deliciously buttery pastry, and served with a most gracious sauce". At the same meal, they were pleased to discover that the Ch Laoga Barton '64 at £5 would have been unobtainable at the price in Paris, that it was excellently served too. A pity there was so little good cheese to eat with it.

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"The anticipatory sacrifice" is not popular with the rubber player who confines it to a preemption, preferably before his opponents have bid. To my view a nuisance bid is effective only at a low level when it may persuade the opponent who is next to speak that game for his side is improbable. All will depend on how the points are divided, and a deal from a World Pairs championship shows the kind of nuisance bid which is occasionally successful.

No score; dealer East.

♠ K J 8 5 2
♥ A 8 7
♦ 10 4
♣ 10 8 6

W N E S
♠ 7 4 5 4 2
♥ 9 8 5 4
♦ 10 8 6 3
♣ 7

East South West North
3 Clubs No. of Tricks No. of Tricks No. of Tricks No. of Tricks

West passed because she had made one free bid and her partner's raise to Three Clubs did not reflect the value of her hand which was nearer Five Clubs; East could have afforded to bid Three Hearts or Four Clubs. Against a heart lead West will establish the loop diamond for a second spade discard and make a small slam.

South's intervention appears to have lured the opponents to underbid; but the true cause of East's lapse was North's single raise on 10 points. If either South or North had bid "3 nothing would have happened; the opponents from bidding game. It is necessary to spoil the story, because North was not satisfied to pass Three Clubs and bid Three Hearts. East woke up, bid again, and eventually doubled Five Hearts for a 500 penalty. Since the result was the same as if South had bid Three Hearts over One Diamond, you may conclude that there is little profit from sacrificial bidding, even at duplicate.

Edward Mayer

Accordingly, on a series of recent visits to restaurants of a suitable kind, the Good Food Guide's own investigators have tried to put themselves in the Hudson team's shoes, and judge what they saw and tasted as a reflection of the British social and economic situation. The opening session was naturally held at the Connaught Hotel, a place so English and aristocratic in its milieu that it is difficult to enter it without tripping over a distinguished American—say, Bing Crosby—or a couple who, if they were not German, were certainly first conceived by the pencil of George Grosz, with him in chemical manufacturer's jowls and ber with a pork-pie-like black hat perched upon a platinum head. The team's report continues: Much in this establishment bore out the Hudson's thesis. The chef is French, the wine waiter Polish. The port by the glass (50p), "as ordered for the House of Lords" is 10b and degenerate by comparison with the masculine drink that the great Dr Johnson praised. We were badly advised about the dishes we chose; who would have guessed that "nouilles jéréme Promenade" bid sweetbreads rather than, as we had always supposed, the kind of fish that a ballet dancer catches at the end of the pier?

Bread and butter pudding contained hardly any bread. That made it absolutely delicious, of course, and if more English people made it like this there would

Good Food Guide Eating the English way

never be a European butter or egg mountain again. But can the British afford the tastes of Marie Antoinette? We have to admit, however, that the pinky roasted grouse with puffly pommes soufflées and fresh salsify would be a cheering dish to eat while the rumblir waited; and if British industry had reinvested its capital as prudently as the Connaught has replenished its wine cellar over the years, the Hudson people could have stayed at home. We took note of a bottle of Ch Cheval Blanc '62 at £15.50, but even £5 or so buys a choice of claret and burgundy that not many Paris restaurants can match.

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Another lurch was taken at Carrier's. We deduce from this experience, that American influence on British life is waning, though the proprietor of this once very chic London restaurant may have been infected by "the English disease" for we overheard him telling some American customers in mid-October that he had been "too lazy" to replace his summer menu with the new autumn one.

The chefs here—one of them sounds German, or possibly Swiss—raised themselves sufficiently far above the prevailing lethargy to produce, on the four-course, £4.75 set meal, oison tart and calves' liver with avocado and pilaff rice that we would have been pleased to eat anywhere, and the north African waiter who

served us at least smiled where he could not comprehend. But the cold curried apple soup tasted of curry powder, and the chocolate and chestnut bombe tasted of mortals at all. Towards the end of the meal they burnt the toast for the staff loach, but this is an English tradition as old as King Alfred. Various people have said that Mr Carrier's carafes have deteriorated in quality; we think they are right.

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The Hudson team would surely have chosen to eat their farewell dinner at Le Gavroche, using their pocket calculators to work out this restaurant's takings at about £1,000 a night. "At this rate", the Guide's party adds, when M. Girard d'Estang puts in his take-over bid for Great Britain Limited, he will have no hesitation in nominating MM Albert and Michel Roux to look after the affairs of the Bank of England. However, we would resist this step, for they are far more usefully employed in the kitchen.

We base this conclusion not so much on the house apicalities such as the roulades of smoked salmon or the canenn Gavoche, which limited resources forbade even us to embark upon, as on the routine dishes of a well-conducted French kitchen: the mussel soup (90p), the pot au feu sauce Albert (£2.75), and the oeuft à la neige (90p).

The last dish, delicate as a cumulus cloud, with a lining of caramel to counteract its essential naïveté, roused the Frenchwoman in our party to poetical flights which economists would write list, by the Exchange like before rather than after the late fall in share prices: we invested cautiously, and have no complaints, but it would be easy to be stung."

Times Newspapers Ltd and the Good Food Guide (Consumers Association and Hodder) 1974.

Chess

Playing for high stakes

Just as Sir John Betjeman is fond of drawing our attention to some pleasingly hideous Victorian monstrosity so the Soviet master Jakob Neushtadt loves to delve into the history of chess of the last century.

In the most recent issue of the Russian chess journal "64", that for the period November 15-21, he has a half page headed "Steinitz despatches a move".

From this it emerges that he is dealing with Steinitz as a correspondence player and further that it concerns a match of two games that was played by correspondence 100 years ago between London and Vienna.

These games were both quite long, 49 moves each, and it occurred to me that if the games were by correspondence then they must have taken considerably more time than just the year to be played.

I made my way through the stacks of chess magazines in the erstwhile small bedroom which, like nearly all the rooms of my house, has been taken over by chess-books and journals.

There I found the appropriate volume and discovered that the first moves were dispatched on June 1, 1872. What is more, this was not a simple correspondence match by letter but the moves were first sent by telegraph and only subsequently confirmed in writing.

Further it was the City of London Chess Club that had challenged the Vienna Chess Club and that this challenge had been made on March 1.

The London proposal had been for a friendly match but the Viennese countered with the challenge that the match should be for £100 a side. When one considers that this would correspond to about £10,000 nowadays one realizes the size of the stake.

This was accepted and powerful teams were marshalled on both sides: for London there were Blackburne, Horwitz, Lowenthal, Potter, Steinitz and Wisker; for Vienna, Berger, Czank, Fleissig, Galbhufs, Kolisch and Meitner.

Of the Viennese team Berger is still renowned as the great end-game expert; Horwitz is famous as an expert game study composer and also as the advocate of the two raking Bishops known as the Horwitz Bishops; but perhaps the most memorable was Kolisch who started off as a professional chess-master and then graduated, by favour of the Viennese Rothschild, into a most successful banker eventually ennobled as Baron Kolisch.

In the game in which London had White they started with the English Opening and Neushtadt writes in "64" that London commenced with the Staunton Opening. This brings me to the true centenary nature of the year 1874 for it was in that year, on June 22, that Staunton died.

He was a great figure in the history of chess and, though he made many enemies by his sharp pen, he also did a great deal for the game in many ways.

The London team did not last long as such but, by the time move 14 was played it was reduced to Steinitz and Potter. There is an amusing note about this in the Chess Players' Chronicle: "It by no means follows that these unavoidable secessions did the London cause any harm. On the contrary, the withdrawal of four cooks probably accounts for the very superior broth produced by the remaining two".

Blackburne, by the way, had to abandon the match owing to his commitments to give a series of simultaneous displays all over the country. One of these displays was held in fact at my old school.

Both games went well for the London side and in March, 1874 Vienna proposed what would nowadays be called a package deal. They resigned the English Opening game and stipulated a draw in the other.

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Cluh and that this challenge had been made on March 1.

The London proposal had been for a friendly match but the Viennese countered with the challenge that the match should be for £100 a side. When one considers that this would correspond to about £10,000 nowadays one realizes the size of the stake.

This was accepted and powerful teams were marshalled on both sides: for London there were Blackburne, Horwitz, Lowenthal, Potter, Steinitz and Wisker; for Vienna, Berger, Czank, Fleissig, Galbhufs, Kolisch and Meitner.

Of the Viennese team Berger is still renowned as the great end-game expert; Horwitz is famous as an expert game study composer and also as the advocate of the two raking Bishops known as the Horwitz Bishops; but perhaps the most memorable was Kolisch who started off as a professional chess-master and then graduated, by favour of the Viennese Rothschild, into a most successful banker eventually ennobled as Baron Kolisch.

In the game in which London had White they started with the English Opening and Neushtadt writes in "64" that London commenced with the Staunton Opening. This brings me to the true centenary nature of the year 1874 for it was in that year, on June 22, that Staunton died.

He was a great figure in the history of chess and, though he made many enemies by his sharp pen, he also did a great deal for the game in many ways.

The London team did not last long as such but, by the time move 14 was played it was reduced to Steinitz and Potter. There is an amusing note about this in the Chess Players' Chronicle: "It by no means follows that these unavoidable secessions did the London cause any harm. On the contrary, the withdrawal of four cooks probably accounts for the very superior broth produced by the remaining two".

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"Abandoned as drawn." Steinitz is right when he says that sooner or later Black will get his Rook to R7 with an eventual win.

At this point London acknowledged a feeling of decided discomfort. Their pieces are almost all at home, the enemies are rapidly coming into action, while the surplus Black Pawn is at present as flat, stale, and unprofitable as the beer which excursionists from Hoxton take out in stone bottles on Easter Monday.

The 1874 Chess Editor of Land and Water.

And not 24. KcKt, on account of 24... R-R ch.

26. K-B2, would have been embarrassing for Black.

27. P-QR3, K-R4, 28. P-QR4, K-R5, 29. P-QR5, K-R6, 30. P-QR6, K-R7, 31. P-QR7, K-R8, 32. P-QR8, K-R9, 33. P-QR9, K-R10, 34. P-QR10, K-R11, 35. P-QR11, K-R12, 36. P-QR12, K-R13, 37. P-QR13, K-R14, 38. P-QR14, K-R15, 39. P-QR15, K-R16, 40. P-QR16, K-R17, 41. P-QR17, K-R18, 42. P-QR18, K-R19, 43. P-QR19, K-R20, 44. P-QR20, K-R21, 45. P-QR21, K-R22, 46. P-QR22, K-R23, 47. P-QR23, K-R24, 48. P-QR24, K-R25, 49. P-QR25, K-R26, 50. P-QR26, K-R27, 51. P-QR27, K-R28, 52. P-QR28, K-R29, 53. P-QR29, K-R30, 54. P-QR30, K-R31, 55. P-QR31, K-R32, 56. P-QR32, K-R33, 57. P-QR33, K-R34, 58. P-QR34, K-R35, 59. P-QR35, K-R36, 60. P-QR36, K-R37, 61. P-QR37, K-R38, 62. P-QR38, K-R39, 63. P-QR39, K-R40, 64. P-QR40, K-R41, 65. P-QR41, K-R42, 66. P-QR42, K-R43, 67. P-QR43, K-R44, 68. P-QR44, K-R45, 69. P-QR45, K-R46, 70. P-QR46, K-R47, 71. P-QR47, K-R48, 72. P-QR48, K-R49, 73. P-QR49, K-R50, 74. P-QR50, K-R51, 75. P-QR51, K-R52, 76. P-QR52, K-R53, 77. P-QR53, K-R54, 78. P-QR54, K-R55, 79. P-QR55, K-R56, 80. 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On the 100th anniversary of the birth of Sir Winston Churchill, A L Rowse recalls a day spent at Chartwell

Remembering the man behind the Churchill legend

Quite the most wonderful day I have spent in my life was the whole day I spent alone with Churchill at Chartwell, on Monday, July 11, 1955. I had missed my opportunity of a weekend in his company at All Souls in the dreadful 1930's, when he came down as a guest of Sir Arthur Salter—I was away, but I heard about his inveighing against Baldwin, still the leading figure in government, as just a "corpse" (Baldwin's excuse later to his friend, Warden Fember of All Souls, was "I was holding down a job of which I was physically incapable").

What a transformation in those 20 years! Britain had fought the last great war in her history, had gone out as a great power in the most heroic five years in her long record—and Churchill, discredited in the appalling 30s, had emerged as the hero of the conflict, at 80 the most famous man in the world.

I was in the midst of writing my family history of the Churchills, and needed his help for the second volume, *The Later Churchills*, particularly in getting me into the Blenheim archives, which had not been open to G. M. Trevelyan for his *Age of Queen Anne*. If it had not been for Sir Winston I do not suppose I should have penetrated, and my second volume could hardly have been written. However, he wanted to see the typescript of *The Early Churchills*, and to me he generously lent—over both my book, and his own *History of the English-Speaking Peoples*, of which he wanted me to vet the Tudor volume.

So he arranged for me to spend a whole day with him in fine style, sending his large car flying his penman as Lord Warden of the Cinque Ports to pick me up in London. I had only the night before at Oxford finished writing *The Early Churchills*, just before midnight. Next morning, with half an hour in hand, I spent it at Lancaster House appropriately looking at the portraits of Marlborough's daughters there, including Henrietta, second duke in her own right, who married a Godolphin—if her son had had children the dukedom would have come down through the Godolphins, instead of the Spencers.

Artistic

I was surprised by the beauty of Chartwell—I should have realized that Winston was essentially an artist, one side of him. He had improved the lovely valley with a lake in the hollow, there was a sickle-shaped wood on the opposite side, the house well added on to the terraces looking away to a distant view of the South Downs. "The way the planes came," he said. "We looked down together later—for me the day was filled to the brim with memories, of history and the historic experiences we had been through not so long before, himself a living monument to them. It was all very poignant; fortunately he wrote down every thing he said to me. Looking back over it, I rather think he meant me to, himself so historically minded.

For, one thing impressed itself on me at once: he was not a bit like the ordinary politician, cagey and reserved, who would tell you a thing—like the Simons, Halifaxes and Atlees I well knew. Winston, I reflected, was by training a soldier, by nature a writer and artist; that sums him up: he was not a good party-politician, in the deleterious sense of the

word. He followed the instincts and the impulses of his genius; instructed and inspired by his sense of history, he became a statesman with a world-view. We talked nothing but history and politics after one false start, or perhaps a cry-on to his part: he led me to a window to show me his brood-mare by somebody out of some-one—but soon saw that I hadn't come to Chartwell to talk about horses.

He was completely unreserved like a man of genius, not a politician, was ready to tell me everything, answer the questions I particularly wanted to put, directly, generously, no beating about the bush or trying to put one off.

When I first arrived there was a tremendous stir of activity in the house—workmen moving books to and fro, upstairs and downstairs, clearing out and changing about rooms; pretty young secretary came in and out, a lady-housekeeper quite besotted on Lady Churchill's Siamese, "Gabriel"; an ex-guardian of a butler, a Scot of ferocious aspect and whisky complexion, a private detective with fine eyes that took in everything. A regular hum of activity: evidently there was a dynamo at work somewhere.

I looked around the library, always a fair indication of the man. Above the chimney-piece was the Frank Salisbury portrait of the wartime Prime Minister, the famous zip-suit of RAF grey. On the opposite wall, the original plan of Port Arthur, a "D" day plus 109, with all the ships, quays, tracks and so on. On the wall, a recent biography of Eden uppermost. The books revealed the man, history, biography, political memoirs; complete sets of the English classics, Scott, Macaulay, Dr Johnson. There were eight or ten volumes of Marlborough's manuscript correspondence, no doubt from Blenheim; in one corner, all the original correspondence of Lord Randolph Churchill, from which Winston wrote his father's biography.

I remember that in the Kaiser's study in the Schloss in Berlin I had noticed the copy of that book which Winston had presented to the *Allerhochste* after the German military manoeuvres in 1909. (The Kaiser's library, too, offered a portrait of the man: half-German, half-English; half-political biography and memoirs, half-Lutheran theology, with Bishop Boyd Carpenter on Prayer in Franco—a friend of the family.)

Before lunch I was hidden up to the great man's bedroom: there was the so familiar baby-face, the strange rolled-up eyes of a cloudy blue (he turned after his grandfather, the Victorian seventh Duke), spectacles on his nose, a large cigar rolling in his mouth. He was going through the long galley-panels of his *History of the English-Speaking Peoples* spread before him on a tray-desk right across the bed.

He welcomed me with old-fashioned Victorian courtesy, made me sit down, and we at once embarked on history. Paying me the compliment of taking me for the professional, himself the amateur. I returned his snub by describing his *Marlborough* as an historical masterpiece along with the professional's *Age of Queen Anne*. He said he now had some time, and was re-reading the history he had written before the war but was not satisfied with it. There were people, however, who would read it on account of "my notoriety." He passed. Evidently something was expected, so I came up with a not



in his own style: "Just as in the emotion of love there is an element of vision so in great fame there is an element of merit."

He smiled—evidently he understood each other. I knew that he didn't like making new acquaintances and that something special was required. After that, we got on like a house on fire. Shortly I was sent off with his chapters on Henry VII and Henry VIII to read in proof, while he got up and dressed. On the way down I noticed the passages and staircases filled with his paintings, and was struck by the quite different side to his personality they reveal. Of course his public personality was aggressively masculine; here was a softer, more feminine side—such as Birkenhead specifically described in his defence of his friend at the nadir of his fortunes and popularity.

Strategy

The best known figure in the world now entered: striped blue zip-suit, blue velvet slippers with WSC worked in gold outwards—in case anyone didn't recognize who it was. At lunch he talked politics, politicians, the war. Several things I had never heard of: for one, if the Germans had invaded the country and government had had to scatter, he had in mind to form a triumvirate with Beaverbrook and Ernest Bevin. For another: he had thought of a slogan to broadcast in case of invasion—"You can always take one with you." But there was no danger in 1940. The Germans hadn't thought of ways and means of crossing the water, had nothing prepared. If they attempted it, we should have put everything into it—the whole of the Navy and Air Force. It would have been a fearful—and he made the gesture of swimming in the Channel, with which the defeated peoples in Europe used to taunt the hero-volk in 1940.

I registered at that point that his had been a reasoned confidence in 1940, not a mere gamble; and that, on that basis, he could assure Roosevelt that he was not backing a lost cause. I asked if he thought that Hitler's idea was that we would surrender; he said that it was in his mind. "I then dared to put the question: what did he think Hitler thought of him?"

He replied that Hitler considered him representative of only a small minority in the country, that Britain was anti-communist and should therefore never be pushed hard enough to "knock me over". I said it was fortunate that Hitler had little understanding of England—he had a profound understanding of the forces of evil, none of the forces of good.

Churchill was evidently keen to tell me about his own contribution to the technique of war in the field of combined operations. He talked in me at length about the plan he had worked out during the first German offensive while Lloyd George was working to reduce Tory prejudice against him, before his return to office—for our seizure of the island of Borkum, as a base to bring the blockade nearer to Germany and lessen the weekly pay talks he used to give the Cabinet in the worst days of 1940, and that Dalton had written them all down. Winston didn't know that.

On the subject of Chamberlain, he "wouldn't say anything unkind, but didn't approve. It wasn't straight, that interview with his own Foreign Secretary, Eden, in the presence of Grandi (Mussolini's ambassador), and saying one thing to one and another to another. And he knew another thing. At the end of Mr Baldwin's premiership, when he wanted to go and various people said he couldn't, there was a by-election in a safe Tory seat—couldn't remember the name—near Westminster, completely Blue. Moore-Brabazon said he wouldn't fight it so long as Baldwin remained P.M. That settles me, said Baldwin. Duff Cooper was prepared to fight it, and went to Chamberlain, who was head of the Party Office; he told Duff that there would be no funds for him in the seat. [Duff Cooper was anti-appearance.] Not straight—'Take your chance'—commented the old sportsman.

He offset this with a gallant tribute to Mrs Chamberlain, "wonderful woman—twenty years, and she's quite unchanged". It was revealing to an historian how he spoke of party politics—he didn't speak as a party-man at all; above all that. He spoke of the Conservative Party as they; it brought home how many years he had been a Liberal, and how loosely he sat to mere party, really a man of the centre, in many ways,

who never saw things through party blinkers. (Chamberlain was the good party-man.) Churchill spoke with no feeling whatever against the Labour Party; all that had crossed away. He wondered what would happen in them now they were finding out that nationalization wasn't a solution. "You don't create wealth by just taking it away from other people. There should be minimum standards for people," and beyond that—free run.

Lunch proceeded, rather hardsome for a tea-totaler—I didn't dare to be one, alone with Churchill. There had been Bristol Cream before lunch, a very good hock during lunch. When it came to cheese, I drew the lines at port, at lunch I must have some brandy. (I can't bear brandy.) "What? No brandy? Then you must have some liqueur with your coffee. Have some Cointreau: it's very soothing." It was very soothing.

Generous

Slightly sozzled, I trotted upstairs after him to the big study next to his bedroom—over the fireplace a large landscape of Blenheim—and we devoted ourselves to history. Luckily I had brought the typescript of the first half of my book, which he wanted to see. He went through it, making after-lunch noises. I thought he was going to fall asleep. Not a bit of it: attentively he pounced on points of detail, and then made an unexpected historical observation.

This was about Charles I, on whom I had been rather hard as a poor politician. More generous, Churchill said, "We don't consider how much more difficult things were for them in the past—so much easier for us. We have all the ground prepared for us, civil servants to hand up the material for us to make the decisions. Earlier, people had to cope with everything themselves, where we have specialists, a machine upon which things move for us." It was salutary to have this original comment from a great man of action, who knew well from experience the difficulties of getting things done; I registered it—and reserved my own opinion of Charles I. He was particularly attentive

to words. He didn't like my describing the days of the Restoration as "snobbish"; so, in deference to him, I altered it in the book to "in the grand days of the Restoration"—with a shade of irony, for of course they were snobbish. He didn't see the point of my describing the Civil War as "degenerating" towards the end. I tried to describe what I had in mind by the phrase; it was brushed aside. "Why don't you say 'became spiteful'? I like the word 'spiteful', so I didn't sly it. When I said that someone 'pookpooked' something, I hope you don't say that," he said archly. He was amused: it was like taking one's essay up to the headmaster.

He sat in an armchair, authoritatively, back to his bedroom; a chair placed for the pupil in front of him. A photograph of himself faced me and, high up on the wall behind, the black-and-white caricature of the bull-dog Winston. I noticed the gift for intense concentration: while he worked away, everything else ceased to exist for him. "I like working," he said with satisfaction.

The session ended, he showed me all round with old-fashioned courtesy: the fine George I card-table some section of Constable's desk given him, a curious upright desk given him by his children to work at. (Disraeli always worked at an upright desk—was it that one?) There all the proofs of history were laid out—of which later was to vet the second volume. I tried to take my leave; no notice was taken. There was to be a further session on my book: he was clearly interested in my history of his family.

Gingerly we descended the stairs into the boiling rosegarden, settling on a deep seat together. He settled down to read my chapter on his ancestor, the original Constable Colonel. "So they called him the Colonel, did they? I never knew that." When we came to his namesake's history (*Divi Britannici*) he was much taken with the phrase about the bounds of Britain "extending to those far distant shores—now become a part of us and growing space to be the bigger part—in the sun-burnt America." "Would you mind if I quoted that—your copyright?" he inquired. "But, of course—it's your ancestor's," I laughed. I do not know, however, whether he intended to use it in his *History of the English-Speaking Peoples*.

I could not believe that he would be so interested, and once I chipped in with an explanatory comment, partly out of nervous deprecation, was at once firmly ticked off. "You can't read it," he said. After that I kept quiet while he commented: "Very good," he chirped. Or, "Quite right," "Quite right about James I's execution of Raleigh: I've always thought that one of the worst blots against that—extraordinary—sodomite" (this with a relish at getting out the phrase). "But there was a better one shortly after handsome John Churchill's affair with Lady Castlemaine: 'To have been seduced at sixteen [sic] by the King's mistress must have been interesting and—[reluctantly] valuable experience."

Reading my typescript re-awakened his interest in his own *Marlborough*. He read a passage or two with feeling and approach. There was a certain poignancy in it—a little the mood of the aging Swift. "What a genius had I then," he said. "I had reserved my own old, catching sight of his portrait by Kneller: 'There was

once a man.' Winston told me he had been to see all the battlefields—Blenheim, Ramilies, Oudenarde, Malplaquet, was Lord Rosebery who suggested that he should write a life of the great soldier. I himself had never liked it. Camarot Bay affair [Me borough was accused of giving information to the enemy Rosebery said, "But you he never read. Page's *N Examen*"]. Indeed, Winston I never heard of him. Rosebery lent him the book, and I settled him. Page had, in fact effectively answered Mascul whom Churchill dismissed roundly as "a liar."

Mementoes

The afternoon wore on, at last the old gentleman braved off to feed the goldfish. I never seen such fat, spoilt fish: they were addressed "delights"—as Rufus poodle had been—and came the rattle of his cane. He showed me all round creation, the little ponds, stream with the cascade, lying down upon the swim pool, inviting in the heat, bay was all cut lying in bun pretty thick in the upper of the valley. The Churchill flew from the masthead over Luram round. I was taken a fine combination of cal a crescent of white foxg against a background of anchiusa. "Yes—that's Glen—now with regard to the b of Blenheim. . . I have in mind what Clemmie had to put up with, and led away to the Marlborough pavilion, decorated for her a nephew with a frieze in r of Blenheim, with roundel Queen Anne, John Churchill Saah.

We went in. In my moments he took me into another study, plainer simpler, dominated by the portrait of Leonard Jerome New York, whose eldest son Winston was. This was given up to memento of the bounds of Britain of leaders in the First Foch, Pétain, President W and Company. I could not reflect that, already a w name in the age of Presi Wilson, the Kaiser, I Gedge here he was, he qualified the head of above were the colleagues of Second War—Eisenho Montgomery, Tedder and rest. He drew my attention the Boer poster during the S African war advertising a reward for the escaped pris Churchill dead or i Twenty-five Pounds; that I am worth", he said, self himself like a weary Tira the desk for me to observe charming histrionic turn.

In the entrance hall he off his shoes, and had difficulty in putting on slippers. I ventured to help, but gesture was rejected. He got up, and with a willed, self-sufficient spirit had always had from child still recognizable. Beaver was coming down to dine spend the evening, till the was going off to bed. ing sun poured from the into the front door, upon flowers, the head of Roosevelt in wood, the bulky figure waving gund. I sank back exhausted i lordly car, thrilled by it last glimpse of the flag Chartwell—and went bac Oxford to write it all dow is only today, nearly b years after, that it occurs t that he thought I would mesot me to.

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How Eton's wall game can lead to a seat on the board

"Another pointless game at the Wall" the heading bears when no goal is scored. But the mocking phrase is unjust. Admittedly it is a survival, the kind of game immemorably invented by boys with surplus energy along corridors or in backyards all over England, starting as a trial of strength and gradually evolving its special skills. A very similar game was played at the Old Charterhouse, with the identical method of scoring.

The principal match of the year at Eton takes place today. The ground is about 100 yards long, bounded on one side by a high brick wall and on the other by a furrow. At no point is it more than 15 yards wide. The object is to drive an under-sized football over a line, beyond which the aggressors may attempt to score. One is called Good Calk, because the ball cannot go over the dead ball line; the other Bad Calk, because it can, which offers some slight advantage to a bard pressed defence.

Each team has 10 players. There used to be 11, but the abolition of goals, who mooned about, catching cold at long-stop, has encouraged more adventurous kicking. The centre of the battle is the Bully (scrum) and the leaders of it are the three Walls, men chosen for their huge size, physical strength and that exceptional length of arm which so seldom correlates with intellectual power. They are clad in soft helmets, "sacks" and corduroy trousers, not to protect them from their opponents but from the wall, which is more abrasive.

Next to, in fact under, these romanesque giants are two Seconds, away on all fours, preparing those occasional explosions which open up a sudden advance. Then Third, a skir-

misher, who rolls the ball in any taken advantage of or prevents the enemy from doing so, very much a key man. Next, moving outward, Fourth, slightly under-employed, and Lines, whose task is to stop the ball going out, or, if it has gone where it halted, not where it crossed the line) and to attempt huge kicks out at an angle of some 45 degrees. To the rear of all this infantry are the promoters of the Behinds, Flying Man and Long.

The game begins "under the ladder", that is half-way along the wall, where, in remote antiquity, there used to be a ladder. Walls and Seconds fold into place in strict alternation, like the parts of some carnivalous plant closing or dusk. The ball is rolled in and the beetle is on.

At first nothing happens except for a general beaving while each side tries to establish a point of leverage. First Wall moves like a rock climber on a traverse, his hand, his fore-arm and the inside of his thigh flat against the bricks, offering no cranny into which his counter-attacker can slip. He advances hand and arm and knee inch by inch until he has enough purchase to prize out his opposite number. At the moment of loosening he may pass the ball out to his Second who, trapezoid on all fours, will lodge it in the crook of his hind foot. Great technical precision is involved and the prime tactic is that of surprise.

Enemy suspicions must be lulled in a false sense of security and his mind must be distracted by irrelevance. Intellectual conversation—"What do you think of Croce's Aesthetic?"—can prove very disarming to Colleagues. The late Mr Denys Wilkinson was the supreme master of this art. For some reason it is less effective against Oppidians: The lull seems permanently

Sportsview



established, when suddenly the Bully erupts. There is a scrambling and scuffling which either darts back to the wall or sends off Third and Fourth and Lines. Then it all ends as suddenly. Immobility is restored, but there have been mistakes and bully rushes end a brilliant volley, and five or 25 yards have been gained or lost, amid great excitement. This pattern of alternating trance and frenzy continues until one side has forced its way into Calk and is in a position to score.

the middle line against the wall. When the umpire, flat on his stomach, is satisfied that all is in order, he withdraws his hand from the ball and his body out of harm's way, and says, "Stop talking. Are you ready? Coming?" (It was there already, but no matter.)

Then all hell breaks loose. Only in Calk is anyone allowed to lurk (angle—to heel the ball backward). The attackers do so, if they can, until it is out of reach of the defence. Then some foot must get the ball off the ground to win by wall and some hand must hold it there, while its owner shouts "Got it!"

Instantly everyone freezes, so that the umpire can peer in through the forest of legs. If he upholds the claim he shouts "Shy". This means that one point has been scored, and that the teacher is allowed, unobscured, to have a shy at that or to pass it to an shy to do the same. A goal counts 10 points and is scored about once a year, but on St Andrew's Day it is far rarer than a hole in one in the Open. The last was scored over 50 years ago and disallowed on some lawyer's quibble, but the college's website says that in 1927 in Good Calk the goal is the narrow door of the Lower Master's house; in Bad Calk it is marked on an elm tree, and no goal is ever scored at that end. A shot goal can be scored from anywhere and counts five points, but only Mr Richard Tindall, who excelled at all games, ever succeeded in changing a shy at that "pointless game" victory is generally by a mere two or three points (shies) to nil.

It sounds bizarre, almost Boeotian, yet all who have played it rate it one of the great games. It is enormous fun and utterly exhausting. It demands secret skills and an equable temperament. Though Rule XII forbids "tripping" kicking, stamping, striking

and now, alas "knuckling" and goes on to disallow "any methods of play whose sole purpose is to cause pain", it can be excruciatingly uncomfortable.

The Wall Game is the supreme non-spectacle, the last sport totally to disregard the spectator. Twenty young or youngish friends have agreed to spend a strenuous hour in the open air and quite often in the mud. It is entirely a team event and for this reason has produced no stars, no Ranji or Stanley Matthews.

The shadowy and curious figure of J. K. Stephen is piously remembered in College, a hero before Agamemnon, and certain ageless stalwarts, Goodhart, Bevin, Harman (a great offensive player) and others are affectionately or humorously recalled, but really it is only the game that matters. On St Andrew's Day, when the champions of 70 Collegers take on the pick of over 1,100 Oppidians, the game has the special appeal of David v Goliath, of Brain v Brawn, and the fact that Brain often wins proves how indispensable are the arts and skills involved.

As a preparation for life, the Wall Game has two special merits. It teaches one to push oneself to the limit of endurance and discomfort without losing one's temper. It provides the perfect training for later work on boards, committees, royal commissions and governing bodies. The unmovable and the irresistible are poised in perfect balance. Nothing is happening and it seems unlikely that anything ever will. Then, for two seconds or so, the situation becomes fluid. If one can take one's chance—and there may not be another—the day is won. If one mis-kicks or mistimes or is timid or was not attending, all may be irretrievably lost.

Oliver Van Oss

No light at the end of the Tunnel?

George Hutchinson

"All being well, the main work should begin in 1975 and be completed by 1980." But all is not well—or rather it is well in one particular. The promise of a Channel Tunnel is rapidly receding. That extract from the White Paper of September, 1973 may now be revised to read: "All being well, a decision to cancel the scheme will be announced in 1975."

To many minds, the prospective tunnel was one of the glaring follies to which the Heath Government became so dangerously attached. Once we take apart, the estimated cost of the linking railway system, over adequately explored and recently, is utterly unacceptable, as Mr Anthony Crosland acknowledged this week. If the Cabinet's other Anthony—Mr Wedgwood Benn—were now to apply himself with similar detachment to our continuing investment in Coacorde he would surely conclude that this, too, is more than a weakened economy can bear.

The Government will gain (and deserve) electoral credit when it finally calls a halt to the tunnel project. It could gain further credit—except among those of Mr Benn's constituents in Bristol who are working on the aircraft—by relieving us of the crippling commitment to Concorde, never mind what the French may say.

Of course the French would be ruffled, just as they will be over the Channel Tunnel. But French governments habitually, often bravely, place their own interests first in all their international transactions. They must accept that others will sensibly do the same on occasion. There is a distinction between co-operation and subordination. We cannot afford to be ruled by what is best for France.

Mr Roy Jenkins has acted with clarity and speed in his measures against the IRA, though

authority and acceptability result of his outbreak.

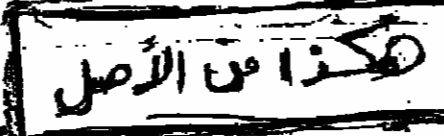
Mr Burton has been v contented by Conser MPs among others. A criticism from members of Labour and Liberal p would not come amiss at a when we are marking the return of Sir Winston's bi

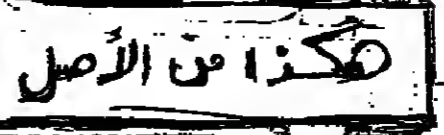
There is no reason to believe that the state of the certain knowledge—of the ultimate sanction would check the hideous fanatics of the IRA. It might well have the opposite effect. They would probably welcome it. In minds governed by equally irrational thoughts of martyrdom glory it might prove more an incentive than a deterrent. Life imprisonment, yes—the last indignity of the thug. Hanging, no—to the IRA it would be a seal of heroism.

More than that, however, there would be the difficulty of defining and establishing precise and individual degrees of responsibility for collective acts of terrorism resulting in death. The less guilty would be liable to bang with the more guilty. Restoration of the death penalty for a particular and singularly odious class of crime could moreover be expected to lead to an extension: in short to capital punishment for murder in general, as in the past. Which is what Parliament has abolished.

No intelligent person would normally pay much attention to the outpourings of the gurgulous Mr Richard Burton: they are usually among the most trivial and boring to gain currency or prominence in the western world. But for once Mr Burton has said something arresting by his offish attack on the life and reputation of Sir Winston Churchill, whom he was so ready to portray in the television production that must now lose a measure of credence.

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

COOLER AIR IN PEKING

would be easy to mark this... government in Peking to see the matter in a different light...

had indeed rubbed unkindly home by its acknowledged importance as well as its proximity that the detente between the two super-powers matters more to each of them than do the relations of either with China.

Nor is there any cause to think that China will wish to reverse the policy of detente with Washington however disappointing to them progress has been over Taiwan. Even as late as 1949 they were still hoping for equal relations with the United States as a balance to their Soviet neighbour when the new regime was first launched.

Control of costs in BBC television

From the Director General of the BBC... subject to very loose disciplines of cost control... that it is over-staffed and over-paid.

Measures to combat terrorism

From Mr E. Pendry... Sir, Professor Bates (November 27) is absolutely right when he says that a hanging in Ulster would produce a terrible response.

reactions by them in the shape of further shocking and horrible acts of violence... It seems that the IRA need martyrs so that instead of remembering one of their number who managed to live up to the average sick Irish joke by blowing himself to smithereens, they can recall men who were caught, tried under conditions of maximum exposure in the media, convicted and done to death.

THE JESUITS INSPECT THEMSELVES

Roman Catholic Church has mounted appearance of common. It has seldom in its history the monolith of common.

diversity. What is more, the history of their society shows continuing multiplicity of function and boldness of missionary approach.

that is, than a tactical revision of the same strategy. It is a change in social morality. One issue deriving from it which is bound to be debated in Rome is the extent to which it is obligatory, or at least proper, in that kind of missionary activity to identify oneself with the secular interests of the disadvantaged or dispossessed.

Terms of social contract

From Mr James Prior, Conservative MP for Lowestoft... Sir, in reply to my request (November 28) for a Government White Paper setting out the details of the social contract...

Private investigators

From Mr Ian Withers... Sir, Re: Privacy of the individual and Licensing of private investigators.

Treasures in shipwrecks

From Mr Peter Marsden... Sir, The recent auction of historic treasures from the wreck of Sir Cloudesley Shovel's flagship Association, lost in 1707 off the Isles of Scilly, highlights an extraordinary attitude which exists towards historic shipwrecks.

X AND THE COUNTRY HOUSE

ky is the final day of the... Country House" at the rita and Albert Museum, a striking exercise in allusive controversy to find in a goal museum.

certainly no automatic exemption for historic houses is intended. The new capital transfer tax will provide broadly the same exemptions in this context as already exist in respect of capital gains tax and estate duty.

support, though few houses can hope to meet more than a fraction of their costs in this way. The system has worked well in a period of relative prosperity, but it could soon go awry if upkeep costs continue to rise at their present rate.

Elizabethan manuscript

From Mr W. H. Kelliher... Sir, Your correspondent's description (November 20) of the Robert Sidney notebook that was offered at Sotheby's on the previous day remains, like the article that she published on October 14, inaccurate in one important respect.

Access to a solicitor

From Mr I. Lishman... Sir, In your issue of November 22 you refer to the disquiet caused by the case of Mr Ronald Milnech whose request to see his solicitor you say was not granted until 20 hours after his arrest.

Clerical clothing

From Mr A. J. McGuire... Sir, I fear that Mr Barlow's reference to the Canon Ecclesiastical on the matter of nightcaps for the clergy (November 27) is out of date. Canon C 27 of the revised code of 1969 is now the proper source.

Sian prisoners of war

Count Nikolai Tolstoy... Nicholas Bethell's articles on the on to repatriate all Soviet citizens at the end of World War II synaesthetically portrayed the e of the tragedy. While I that the policy was on the e: misconceived and inhumane, he is in one material respect r to Eden.

In the course of preparing a full history of the policy of forcible repatriation of Russians, I have had occasion to record hundreds of eyewitness accounts of all aspects of this grim business.

but held them as virtual prisoners. On one occasion an American convoy arrived to take them home. They scrambled or to the trucks, but the Soviet guards opened fire on them, upon which "we all clambered back even faster than we had left".

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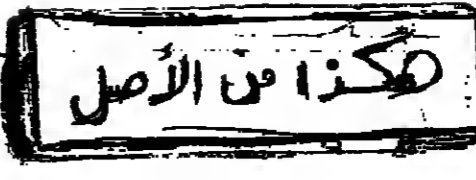
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THE TIMES BUSINESS NEWS

Watney Mann & Truman Holdings chairman goes in shake-up of operations

Maurice Corina and Nicola Tisdall, top-level shakeup of the Watney Mann & Truman Holdings brewing group, involving the departure of Mr Michael Webster, the chairman, has been ordered by the parent Grand Metropolitan. It comes only months after the complete reorganization of the corporate structure for brewing, and a detailed internal review of future strategy, besides changes to top personnel and control systems, provision and distribution facilities in Belgium are to be rationalized and a half year ago, Mr Webster, then chairman of Watney Mann, fiercely opposed and a major takeover battle with Mr Maxwell Joseph's Grand Metropolitan group. He agreed to join the board since April has been warring with his original concern, it is understood that Mr Webster's resignation was not accepted when the decision had been taken to replace Mr Stanley Grinstead, "insulting radical changes," Webster has been in line to become the next chairman of Brewer's Society. He is the group "by mutual consent."

assets of Grand Metropolitan. In the half year ended last March, brewing profits fell 11m on the comparative period a year before. Besides the new chairman for Holdings, Watney Mann & Truman Brewers gets Mr S. H. Threadgill as chief executive. New posts include Mr E. Williamson as chief executive of Chief and Brewer. Watney Mann & Truman Holdings is the holding enterprise for six operating subsidiaries and, in addition, is responsible for investments in certain associated companies. A spokesman said last night the relationship would not be basic, but it was intended that certain services previously provided by the holding company would become the responsibility of operating companies. "In particular, in the area of financial administration the operating subsidiaries shall report more directly to Grand Metropolitan's head office," he added. Under the changes, Mr A. T. R. Nicholson, the financial director of the brewing holding company, is leaving, along with Mr Webster, to be replaced by Mr Stanley Grinstead, who is moving on to the board of Watney International, which is to have Mr Grinstead as its chairman. Last night there were strong suggestions that troubles on the brewing side of the holding company had accelerated changes. Watney International, which has expanded strongly in the European Community markets, said brewing, lagging, and bottling

operations of Vandenhoeve in Brussels would be shut down in the next few months. Sales and accounting changes were to be made for the Belgian operations, retaining administration and distribution services at the site. Some 250 people will be affected by the closure of the production department, stated the company. "But it is intended that a substantial administration and distribution operation will continue on the site." Brewing of the leading brand, Maes Pils, would continue at Waarloos, as would production of other brands, including Watneys, at Chatelet. It is just over a year since Grand Metropolitan decided that Watney Mann and Truman should become a single profit centre, under Mr Webster, but transferable to Mr Grinstead. Complicated negotiations between Grand Metropolitan and the separate boards of Watney Mann and Truman took place, ending with a statement that the creation of a new holding company would "provide the best basis for improving the commercial performance of the brewing companies." The necessary changes were not fully implemented until October 1 this year. Commenting last night on the reshuffle, Mr Grinstead said that more direct control of the brewing division was desirable to enable it to meet the current "challenging economic conditions." Mr Webster was said to have been "out shooting."

MI voice computer responds to ailments

oger Viethore taken instructions can now be given to computer systems through a new range of equipment announced yesterday by Threshold. The equipment has a programmed vocabulary of 150 words which it can recognize by the sound of accents or dialect, and can distinguish between the sounds of an office or a factory. The equipment will be particularly suitable for industrial environments where manual operation of computer terminals cannot be applied because of the operator's hands and are already occupied. Apart from use in business the equipment can also be used to make life easier for physically handicapped. Although it would be expensive, it could provide a more efficient alternative to the "suck" system for operating terminals for the disabled. The system can be adapted so that the user can control the operation of lighting, heating, telephones, radio and television and type writers. John Saunders, marketing manager of EMI Threshold, said that if the operator was "tuned enough to have a machine which would obey the particular words which he pronounced, would it be also sometimes with a whistle. The equipment was developed in America. Machines will be used by EMI Threshold, a company being jointly formed on a 60:40 basis by EMI and should Technology Inc. EMI owned almost £500,000 in United States developers of equipment, and has a 25 per cent stake in Threshold Technology. The equipment is already on sale in the United States and will be marketed throughout the world in the United States and the first generation machines will cost £12,000.

NatWest will clarify speculative issues

By Our Banking Correspondent Westminster Bank, a subsidiary of NatWest, is expected to make a statement today to clarify certain speculative reports in the stock market which resulted in the bank's share price falling by 4p to 90p yesterday. At one time the shares moved as low as 88p. Last night, Sir John Pridoux, the chairman, and Mr Alex Dibbs, the chief executive, met to discuss the situation, but the bank declined to make any comment on the subject of their talks. Stock market speculation centred around reports that the bank had arranged a substantial standby credit facility with the Bank of England. This, it was thought, had been arranged in connection with the bank's deal with former financial tycoon, Signor Michele Sindona, who has claimed that certain foreign exchange losses incurred by two of his banks should be attributable to International

Westminster Bank, a subsidiary of NatWest. Last night, however, the Bank of England categorically denied the existence of any standby facility. Signor Sindona has filed a suit with a Milan tribunal, and the Milan newspaper *Paroma* has published a photostat reproduction of a letter, dated November 30, 1974, reportedly from an International Westminster Bank manager, authorizing Banca Unione, one of Sindona's banks, to carry out certain foreign exchange transactions. The manager concerned has since left the bank. International Westminster Bank has said that it has "absolutely no liability at all" and that all its contracts with the Sindona group of banks have been fulfilled. A second factor behind yesterday's share price fall was a substantial "put-through" of NatWest shares in the stock market.

US seeks study of uranium capacity and oil cut target

Paris, Nov 29.—Proposals for a rapid survey of enriched uranium production capacity and target for oil imports and a fund to finance new energy sources, are the main features of a document submitted by the United States to its 15 partners in the International Energy Agency here. The proposals were presented at the first meeting of the governing board of the agency on November 18 and are now under discussion by the 15 other governments. America proposes that a high-level expert group should be set up immediately to carry out a detailed survey of the enriched uranium market's needs, production and pricing structure. The sources said this survey, to be completed by December 31, would include a comparative study of the different uranium enrichment plants' construction programmes already under consideration. Once the survey is completed the 16 countries within the agency should, the Americans

US seeks study of uranium capacity and oil cut target

urge, immediately discuss conditions governing the construction of new enrichment capacity, particularly how they should be financed and where sited. America proposes that the countries should cut oil imports by the equivalent of 16 million barrels daily or 160 million tonnes a year by the end of 1975, and calls for the setting up of a joint fund to finance investments in new energy sources. It is stressed these investments must be guaranteed against a decline in oil prices by appropriate measures. It is also suggested by the United States that in addition to the working party on long-term cooperation and energy development, certain projects already at an advanced stage should be implemented promptly. These include combining work undertaken in other countries on controlled nuclear fusion, nuclear reactor safety, and development of efficient hydrogen-based energy sources.

US seeks study of uranium capacity and oil cut target

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How the markets moved

ES	5p to 56p	French Kler	4p to 15p
& NZ	10p to 162p	Osborn S	5p to 25p
& Land	1 1/2p to 8p	Rohm Caledon	7p to 57p
& Cons	5p to 103p	Stephens J	1p to 8p
& A	5p to 105p	Unilever	1p to 158p
& B	1p to 28p	Vickers	1p to 82p
& Top	2 1/2p to 22p	Yarrow	5p to 112p
LS		FC Fimace	8p to 28p
& Am Corp	6p to 354p	GEC	4p to 48p
& Min	18p to 17p	Hammerston	5p to 130p
& Less	4p to 76p	Lyons J Ord	5p to 65p
& Nat Fin	1p to 5p	Tube Invest	6p to 105p
& Finbury	2p to 14p	Union Corp	12p to 440p

The Times index: 65.24 -0.66
FT index: 166.3 -1.4

THE POUND	
Australia S	1.82 1.77
Austria Sch	42.50 40.50
Belgium Fr	89.50 86.75
Canada \$	2.345 2.285
Denmark Kr	8.75 8.50
Finland Mk	10.95 10.65
France Fr	5.90 5.70
Germany DM	75.75 72.50
Greece Dr	11.50 11.15
Hongkong \$	1630.00 1580.00
Italy L	725.00 700.00
Japan Yn	6.10 5.90
Netherlands Gld	12.75 12.40
Norway Kr	59.00 56.75
Portugal Esc	206.25 200.00
S Africa Rd	136.25 131.25
Spain Ptas	163.25 158.25
Sweden Kr	10.15 9.85
Switzerland Fr	6.50 6.25
US \$	13.80 13.50
Yugoslavia Dnr	44.00 41.75

Base Rates Table 20

Lockheed hopes to sell new TriStar to Aeroflot

Atlanta, Nov 29.—Mr Dan Haughton, chairman of Lockheed Aircraft, says his company and the Soviet airline Aeroflot have reached an agreement on a joint study of future aircraft purchases by the airline. Mr Haughton said that Lockheed had designed a new, longer-range version of its TriStar to compete with the Boeing 747. Lockheed hoped to sell at least 30 of the improved TriStars to the Soviet airline. The Lockheed-Aeroflot study awaited approval of the United States Government. "I'll be decided here in the next month or two," he said. "If our government approves, I think their will."

Citibank holds prime rate at 10 pc

From Frank Vogl, United States Economics Correspondent, Washington, Nov 29. First National City Bank ended its seven-week run of prime rate cuts today by announcing that it was changing its interest rate setting formula and holding its prime lending rate at 10 per cent. The decision surprised many observers and was a key factor behind a general weakening of share values on Wall Street today. But the Citibank decision coincided with further unfavourable news from the automobile industry, where sharper than expected production cuts are being planned in the face of declining consumer demand. There were some indications, however, that the White House was evolving new policies to stem the recession. Bankers believe the Federal Reserve will soon be back pumping liquidity into the markets, thereby encouraging further declines in interest rates. Citibank has decided on a change in formula to allow a slightly wider gap between its prime rate and prevailing commercial paper rates. The decision probably results from the present volatile state of the markets, partly because of a recent surge in bank borrowings and partly because the Federal Reserve to ensure that new credit demand remains relatively tight. Many bankers welcome the Citibank move as it gives the market some time to consolidate the level of a further 30 per cent mark. They believe rates have fallen too sharply in recent weeks and has tended to unsettle the markets. They agree, however, that the general interest rate trend is still downwards.

Lords committee casts doubt on validity of EEC energy report

By Our Energy Correspondent. The House of Lords after the European Community had published a 23-point action plan for a 15 per cent reduction in energy consumption by 1985, a House of Lords Select Committee voiced criticisms of an earlier EEC energy document. The committee said that the EEC document Towards a New Energy Policy Strategy for the European Communities raised important questions for United Kingdom policy which should be drawn to the attention of Parliament. EEC policy as outlined in the document aimed at nuclear energy meeting 50 per cent of the Community's requirements by the year 2000, with natural gas's share of the energy market to rise from 11.6 per cent to 24 per cent. The result would be a fall in oil's share from 61 per cent to 41 per cent. It was unhappy about the lack of detail in proposals for an energy tax which its establishment could involve the question of British sovereignty over its own resources. This was of "paramount importance" because Britain's potential sources of coal, oil and natural gas exceeded most if not all of the other member states.

Dull day for shares in aftermath of ICI results

Industrial shares had an unexciting session after a generally cautious press reception for ICI's trading news, disclosed on Thursday. Losses were scaled however, and the tone settled at the end of the day. Motor industry issues weakened at one time, behind the cutbacks at Chrysler UK. But shipbuilding shares again looked for early gains in the afternoon. The FT index closed 1.4 down at 166.3, and The Times index was 0.66 down at 65.24. Mining shares were less active. A feature was Consolidated Murchison, whose share bounded to 460p on the increased dividend and profits. Investor's week, page 19

Other pages

Electricity boards may be fused

An inquiry into the structure of the electricity industry in England and Wales will be announced early next week by Mr Eric Varley, the Secretary of State for Energy. The Department of Energy and many people within the industry are known to be unhappy about the complex structure of the industry in England and Wales. While Scotland has two boards that produce electricity and sell it direct to customers, the industry in the rest of the country is divided into separate generation and sales organizations. Electricity is produced by the Central Electricity Generating Board and sold to 12 regional electricity boards, which resell the power to the public. In addition, the Electricity Council plays a coordinating role but has no real powers to direct policy. The inquiry could take up to a year to complete and could lead to the dismembering of the CEBG into regional areas. The combination of these areas with the regional sales boards would provide Scottish-style units. However, the CEBG network was devised to serve England and Wales as a whole and a large amount of its generating capacity is centred around the Midlands, Yorkshire and the East. This concentration of generating capacity makes it difficult to split up the CEBG.

Commonwealth suppliers 'should accept sugar deal'

By Hugh Clayton. Cane sugar producers must accept the EEC's contract offer if they want to hold their predominant position as suppliers in the British market, Sir Christopher Soames, a vice-president of the EEC Commission, said in London last night. "Britain needs long-term security of supply," he said at a meeting of the Sugar Traders' Association. "Although the present beet harvest in Europe has been a miserably poor one the scope for expansion is there in coming years." The contract offered by the EEC for 1.4 million tons of sugar from the developing Commonwealth each year, starting in 1975, gave terms as good as those in the expiring Commonwealth Sugar Agreement, he went on.

Spanish carmakers in £20m bid for Authi

From Harry Debelius, Madrid, Nov 29. Following a suggestion from General Franco's government, three of Spain's leading automobile manufacturers have offered to buy British Leyland's Spanish subsidiary Authi, automotive industry sources said in Madrid today. Representatives of major Spanish car manufacturers met here last Thursday with government officials to discuss the proposal, and agreed to try to make a deal, provided the government offers credit to finance the purchase. The firms involved are Seat, Fasa-Renault and Citroën, and the sale price is expected to be more than £46m (£20m), sources said. Under the tentative agreement, the three companies would take over Authi's engine and spare parts plant at Santander and the assembly plant at Pamplona, guaranteeing job stability for Authi workers and promising to continue producing the British Leyland models currently manufactured in Spain. The purchase plan, revealed after representatives of the state-run trade unions organization assured Authi workers that

KLM plans 500 lay-offs next year

KLM Royal Dutch Airlines, hard hit by oil price rises and other economic difficulties, is contemplating laying off some 500 employees, qualified informants said yesterday. A KLM spokesman would not comment on the airline's plans, but informants confirmed a report in yesterday's Amsterdam daily, *De Telegraaf*, that KLM is planning the layoffs for its 1975-1976 fiscal year. Shtion Automation sold for £6.2m. New Broad Street Properties, a subsidiary of Bankers Trust International, is to buy Shtion Automation, the telephone rental group, from Sound Diffusion for £6.2m. The price reflects loans and interest due to BTI from Sound Diffusion's £5.4m purchase of Shtion last December. BTI intend to continue the development of Shtion's business but do not propose to hold the company as a long-term investment.

Unit Trust: TSB Family Income Plan 19

Contracts offer from E Germany

British companies have been invited to negotiate important contracts with East German authorities as part of the country's next five-year development plan. The invitation was made yesterday by Dr Gerhard Zeil, State Secretary in the Foreign Trade Ministry, at the end of a week of discussions with leading British companies and government officials.

Monetary disorder at root of world economic crisis

Speaking in Rome yesterday Mr René Monod, the editor of *The Times*, argued that the root of the present international economic crisis was monetary. "I believe," he said, "that there is a monetary disorder which is so serious that nothing else could be put right if that is not put right." At a meeting of the Monetary Inflation Committee, organized by Associated Business Programmes Ltd, he said: "The rampant wage inflation which has accompanied this collapse of money is sometimes seen as the cause of inflation. It seems more likely that the deterioration of money and wage inflation have stimulated each other and that each process has contributed to accelerate the process of inflation. "It must be obvious," he continued, "that the value of money depends on its supply. The more money there is relative to the goods and services to be purchased, the lower its purchasing power will be. Paper money is potentially unlimited supply; commodity money is therefore vital to confidence." Political and trade

Arabs buy stake in Daimler from Quandt Group

Bonn, Nov 29.—West Germany's Economics Ministry today confirmed speculation that the Quandt Group had sold a portion of its 14 per cent to 15 per cent stake in Daimler-Benz AG to a Middle Eastern country. The DM1,200m (£211m) nominal Daimler share capital is 40 per cent owned by the Flick Group, of Düsseldorf, more than 25 per cent by Deutsche Bank AG, and the rest distributed among small stockholders. All in all Daimler has about 55,000 shareholders. Daimler-Benz is the second largest West German automobile company with 1973 consolidated sales of 13,008m Deutsche marks and after tax profit of 153.55m. Herr Dieter Vogel, the ministry spokesman, declined to name the country, but said it could be assumed to be an oil producer. "Who else would have that much money?" Merger delay: Peugeot SA denied it has completed merger negotiations with Citroën SA, following widespread reports to this effect.

Japanese surplus

Japan registered its second consecutive monthly payments surplus in October, the finance ministry said today in a revised report. The surplus was \$354m (about £151m) against a \$128m in September and a \$959m deficit in October, 1973.

Cannon Street Investments' shake-up delayed

Plans for the reconstruction of Cannon Street Investments, the banking, investment and property group, have fallen further behind schedule, and it now seems unlikely that a scheme of reconstruction will be put before share and loan stock holders for several more weeks. A spokesman for the group emphasized last night that discussions on the reconstruction plan were progressing satisfactorily even if more slowly than hoped. Although the statement from the company refers to "a number of significant factors" still to be resolved, the spokesman said that nothing basic had changed and that all the parties involved were still agreed in principle with the original outlines for the reconstruction.

Reckitt strikers back

The 700 middle management and clerical grade staff of Reckitt and Colman who were on strike are expected to return to their desks on Monday. The stoppage began when the firm announced that about 90 people would lose their jobs and 37 more made redundant. Xerox Soviet deal. In Moscow yesterday Runk Xerox, the London-based manufacturer of copying machines, announced a deal worth more than £11m with the Soviet foreign trade organization, Technopromimport, for a wide range of products. Cammell Laird peace. The seven weeks-long strike at the Cammell Laird shipyard in Birkenhead is to end on Monday. At a mass meeting yesterday the 2,300 workers from the fitting out trades voted to accept a new company pay offer. Exxon retrenches. Plans by the Exxon Corporation to build a coal gasification pilot plant at Baytown, Texas, have been abandoned. A spokesman said the money would be spent on projects having a greater short-term impact on energy supplies.

On December 5th you can show you're the right man for finding the right man

On December 5th The Times is to publish its guide—FOCUS ON RECRUITMENT SERVICES. The guide, which will cover all aspects of recruitment, is a major opportunity for all recruitment specialists to present their services to Times readers. The Times reaches 33,000 Managers in Industry and Commerce, and no less than 26,000 Company Directors; also 53 per cent—392,000—of Times male readers are in the higher ranks of business, administration and the professions. And these are just the people you need to reach when promoting services. So, whatever line of recruitment you may be in, advertise in The Times recruitment guide on December 5th and reach the men who most value your services and skills. Advertise in The Times. Where it pays to advertise. Advertisement rates: £6.20 per scc (semi-display) £7.90 per scc (full display) For further information and advertising details, ring 01-278 9161, or Manchester Office: 061-834 1234 Glasgow Office: 041-248 5959

Exxon retrenches

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PERSONAL INVESTMENT AND FINANCE

Grouse

Many people dream of becoming their own boss. Indeed, there are many advantages to being self-employed: there are also some drawbacks.

Apart from the latest furore about higher National Insurance contributions which Mrs Castle will be asking from those self-employed with higher incomes, there is the more longstanding complaint that the self-employed do not get the same range of benefits as the employed.

One of the most galling relates to reciprocal medical services, which have now been made available in EEC countries. Upon presentation of the appropriate form E111 anyone falling ill in any of the other eight Community countries will be entitled to the state medical services provided in each member country.

However, this holds true only for the Briton in the employed category; the self-employed person is not entitled to whatever level of free

medical service is provided in the other EEC countries, even though he is, so to speak, a fully paid-up member of our National Health Service.

The official answer to this unfortunate situation is quite simply that the National Health Service equivalents in all of the Community countries, Denmark excepted, do not cover self-employed persons. Therefore British self-employed are excluded even though they are paying their full contributions to their own health service.

On the wider issue of reciprocal health treatment in general, why, one asks, is the existence of the E111 form—which must be obtained before journeying and falling ill if it is to be of any use—so little known? Goodness knows, travellers are bombarded with information and literature about the things they may not do. The same assiduity has been conspicuously absent in telling people of the benefits of form E111.

Taxation: Readers ask

Those tax forms • More about working abroad

My article on scrip dividend options attracted a number of interesting letters and rather than devote a small amount of space to them now I will deal with the matters raised more fully in a subsequent article.

In discussing the annual tax return some weeks ago I said that "failure to return the form within the stipulated time can involve the individual in penalties." A reader tells me: "I have a Tax Return 1973/74 in front of me and cannot find anything which implies that I have to complete it. As I understand it, this is only a convenient method for HMRC to collect information, the only compulsion on the taxpayer being to inform the Inland Revenue what they need to know. How he informs them is immaterial."

Yes, I agree. Section 8 of the Taxes Management Act, 1970, says: "Any person may be required by a notice given to him by an inspector or other officer of the board to deliver to the officer within the time limited by the notice a return of his income, computed in accordance with the Income Tax Acts and specifying each separate source of income and the amount from each source."

The section does not say that the return has to be made on the Inland Revenue's form. However, the section does go on to specify the information that has to be shown and the accuracy that has to be made.

A taxpayer could find that on a "do-it-yourself" form he or she misses out some vital detail and the inconvenience (and perhaps penalties) of putting the matter right could far outweigh the satisfaction of having created one's own return.

When writing on the subject of foreign income I said: "Those who receive pensions and annuities from abroad and who are both resident and domiciled in this country will find a substantial change in the law. Up to April 5, 1974, such income was taxed in the extent that it was exempt in the United Kingdom."

This method has now ceased and the whole amount of the pension or annuity is taxable, less a deduction of one-tenth, in other words 90 per cent of the income is taxable.

A reader writes: "I consulted my local tax department reference the 10 per cent deduction before taxation. They inform me that this applies only to people who at present have only part of their pension transferred from abroad to this country and who leave the other part in the country of origin."



The origin of my occupational pension is France and I have it all transferred to me here so, say my local tax people, tax is payable on the total, instead of 90 per cent."

It may be that this reader is not domiciled in the United Kingdom, if he is both domiciled and resident here the 10 per cent deduction certainly applies. On the other hand, if he is either not domiciled here or is a British subject or a citizen of the Republic of Ireland and not ordinarily resident here, the old remittance basis continues to apply, in which case the 10 per cent deduction is not available.

Concerning foreign employment a reader asks for my opinion on the following problem. "I understand that if one works abroad for less than a year the income earned is now taxable, subject to a 25 per cent deduction, but if one works abroad for more than a year it is not taxable."

Does the law require one to work abroad or to be abroad for this period? As an academic I sometimes have the opportunity to go abroad with a nine-month contract or a one-year contract of employment. If so, what would my position be under the new legislation?"

Schedule 2 to the Finance Act, 1974, tells us that a deduction will be allowed "where the duties of an office or employment are performed wholly or partly in the United Kingdom and are performed wholly or partly while the holder of the office is absent from the United Kingdom for a continuous period."

However, to be eligible for the 10 per cent deduction the continuous period must include 365 or more qualifying days. The Act says that "a day is a qualifying day if on that day he is the holder of that or any other office or employment the duties of which are, in the year of assessment to which the day belongs, performed wholly outside the United Kingdom."

In view of this I would have

thought the nine-month contract would not attract the 100 per cent deduction unless it is a reader took up another employment while abroad for three months to make up the 365 days.

In writing about the new provisions on overdraft interest I pointed out that if an overdraft was in existence on March 26, 1974, interest can be claimed for one year only, up to April 5, 1975, after which it ceases.

There is a limit to the amount allowable, which is geared to the amount of the debit balance on March 26 and to the rate of interest then being paid.

I went on: "There is a useful relieving provision which should be borne very much in mind during the course of this tax year. If the overdraft is repaid by a fixed loan before April 5, 1975, tax will not be allowed on the interest for a further five years up to April 5, 1980."

However, relief for those five years will continue to be restricted to the debit balance and rate of interest prevailing on March 26, 1974.

The words in italics should have been omitted. The restriction is confined to the amount of the debit balance. It does not extend to the rate of interest where the overdraft is converted to a fixed loan and a mortgage to those who were misled.

Still on the subject of interest and the transitional provisions a reader asks me to explain in what circumstances will there not be a disallowance of the first £35 interest on loans which were in existence on March 26, 1974.

The effect of section 19(3) of the Finance Act, 1974, is that interest will not be restricted for the first £35 if either it was "protected interests" under the old law or if it is eligible for relief under the new law.

What this amounts to is that interest on loans taken out for the following purposes before March 26, 1974, will be fully deductible without the £35 disallowance. Very briefly they are loans for the purchase or improvement of land and buildings, or to purchase machinery or plant used in a partnership or employment—the interest on these was "protected" under the old law; loans applied in acquiring an interest in a close company or partnership; loans to pay estate duty and finally loans to chase a life annuity in the case of elderly persons.

I shall be looking at this last type of loan in more detail another time.

Talking shop

Counting the cost of a party

Parties always cost more than you expect, mainly because it is so difficult to calculate real costs in advance.

A big "do" like a wedding reception can easily run into several hundreds of pounds. But professional caterers are usually engaged who know what they are about and can give fairly accurate estimates.

However, functions held at home on an apparently more modest scale and without outside help can total equally large sums.

PARTY DATA

Table with 2 columns: Item and Price. Wine glasses (Typical public house size) 5, Caterer's measure 63, Wine bottles (Typical "bottle" size) 28, Lirre 35.18, Magnum (usually applied to champagne) 54.

Spirits: pub measures 32, Wine consumption (Lunch: allow just under 1/2 bottle per person, Evening: allow at least 1 bottle per person).

At one time bottle parties, where guests brought their own drink and the host provided the premises and the food, offered an answer to budget entertaining. This is no longer the case, because food prices have increased to such an extent that in entertainment terms they can now rival those of drink.

A good example is cheese, once an economical mainstay of party catering. Although subsidised, cheese is now retailing at a minimum of about 40p per lb, and a quarter pound is the average portion a guest at a wine and cheese party would consume.

This is more than 25 per cent up on a year ago, which was up again on 1972. So anyone running a wine and cheese party for the first time for several years could be in for a nasty surprise on prices.

For about the same cost, if this is the main factor, could be offered a round of ham sandwiches each. Taking cooked ham at a cost of between 18p a quarter pound (Woolworth special offer price for Walls brand) and 27p for the country smoked variety, a ham sandwich works out at between 7p and 10p a round.

Again, at one time the frugal-minded could save on sandwich costs by using margarine instead of butter. This is no longer so, because butter (Woolworth own-brand variety) costs 12p and the same store charges 11p for standard Stork margarine.

Today, the only point in using margarine is for ease of handling or for preference.

Wine prices, on the other hand, have remained comparatively stable. Greater competition among more retailers and suppliers has helped to balance increases at the cheaper end of the market.

It is possible, at present, to serve a glass of wine (6oz size) at home at a cost of 11p, although connoisseurs may wrinkle their noses at the taste.

Leaving aside subjective judgments, there are so many varieties of bottle size on the market that it can be a real problem to evaluate a value for money. In one wine shop recently I saw a magnum of cheap wine on offer at £1.08 a litre at 79p and a double litre at £1.24.

"Which", I asked myself, "was the cheapest wine?"

One of the difficulties in performing such calculations is that there is apparently no standardised measure for a "bottle" of wine. The Wine and Spirit Association of Great Britain says carefully that the average contents of a bottle of ordinary wine is usually 26 1/2 fluid ounces.

However, a bottle of champagne will usually contain 27 fluid ounces. A magnum is a term normally applied to champagne to mean two bottles or 54 fluid ounces. A litre, however, is a standard measure which for the purposes of comparison can be translated as 35.18 fluid ounces, and



We can't all entertain in this style...

a double litre, of course, is twice that amount.

Therefore, on a cost per fluid ounce basis, the double litre-sized bottle came out best over the magnum, but only just. Unfortunately, having completed the necessary intricate calculations, the manager informed me that he could not recommend the particular double-litre in question even to his worst enemies.

As equally important factors in gauging party requirements

drinks are served) for a full-time affair, but never more than one bottle per head for a long evening event.

On this basis, assuming a bottle of wine at £14 and to entertain a party of people in wine costs alone it would be as well to budget extra consumption. Food will probably add a minimum cost as much again in raw materials.

Once you are reconciled spending these sorts of amounts there are a number of adjustments that can be made. It suits guests better, for instance, to be served spirits instead of as well as wine and this, not least, costs more.

Wine, particularly at a dinner party, may appear to go further if smaller glasses are used. Typical public house wine contains 5oz of fluid, but normal party goblets typically usually 6 1/2 oz size.

If you do not already have glass manufacturers, do not mark the size where I do wine glasses; it is a precaution to measure the capacity of those that intend to use beforehand.

Cash and carry search and suppliers to keep owners can be a golden party-bolter on the food. They usually stock case sized packs of foodstuffs big discount.

Glasses can usually be obtained from the merchant who supplies the wine. Aug Barnett, for example, although specializes in retailing, will keep prices well below those of a specialist.

On top of any costs re special equipment, such as for decoration and entertainment, such as music, as well as those associated with clean-up afterwards.

Frequently, party organisers usually know what they are getting themselves in for in large numbers, others are thinking again after the cost.

Patricia Tisc...

Lingua franca for the Community?



"Perhaps it would be a good thing if Latin was the language of the Common Market, like it was in Caesar's time, Sir?"

Please, Sir. Yes, what is it, boy? Do you think we ought to be in the Common Market, Sir?

Discussion of the Common Market in a period devoted to Caesar's Gallic War, Bothurst, constitutes a herring of uncommon redness.

Well, Sir, I was thinking that Caesar was really the first true European in a way, what with him running the whole of Europe and everything, and I wondered if there were any economic parallels between what happened then and what's happening now, Sir.

Economics are not my subject, Bothurst. Nor, I'm happy to say, are parallels. It is my unenviable duty to inform you the benefits of a classical education. As to whether we should be in the Common Market or what is the sum of the squares on the other two sides, I haven't the faintest idea.

But Sir... Yes, Pickington. Aren't these the sort of questions that are best decided by referendums?

Upon my soul, I don't know whether your insolence or your ignorance is the more appalling. What part of the verb refero is referendum?

The gerund, Sir. Quite so. But also the neuter singular of the gerundive. A thing nice or fit to be referred. Plural referenda. Learn to appreciate these niceties, boy.

Perhaps it would be a good thing if Latin was the language of the whole of Europe, like it was in Caesar's time, Sir?

Now there or least is a sensible suggestion. With a secure foundation for the understanding of it already provided by Holy Mother Church, the way could indeed be set for a true classical revival.

So does that mean we ought to be in favour of the Common Market, after all, Sir? It depends on one's point of view. Livingstone has just pointed out one major advantage, that is all.

But what about VAT, Sir? What about it, Lurgens? I don't know, Sir. But what about the price of sugar, then, Sir?

Mr Peart negotiated extremely favourably on our behalf with the Common Market on the price of sugar, and we are now getting sugar cheaper than we would have done if we hadn't been members.

Insurance

Many meanings of Lloyd's

In these days when doubts are expressed about insurers which are not "household names" much more is being heard of Lloyd's, because its high level of security is a by-word throughout the world.

But there are various contexts in which the name Lloyd's may be used, sometimes to give an aura of respectability which may not be fully justified. So watch out when the word Lloyd's is mentioned—and make sure you understand how it is being used.

In the first place, there is insurance placed with underwriters at Lloyd's. A policy may be provided, which bears the seal of Lloyd's Policy Signing Office. It gives the official name of the syndicate subscribing to the risk, and the proportion borne by each syndicate.

At one stage, a Lloyd's policy also gave the names of the individual underwriters in the syndicates and each underwriter's share of his syndicate's "line". It isn't that straightforward, but practice no longer continues; but anybody with a Lloyd's policy can obtain a list of the men and women who are underwriters.

Increasingly, however, instead of a sealed policy being issued, one is provided with a certificate, which is issued in accordance with a master policy which is held by the firm issuing the certificate.

That is chiefly a matter of detail. The security behind the insurance is the same in either event.

The security of a Lloyd's policy is simply the underwriting members who subscribe to it, or their heirs, executors and administrators, each for his own part, and not one for another, and in respect of his due proportion only.

Members of Lloyd's have to undergo a means test and they have to lodge deposits (on which they receive the dividends or interest) at Lloyd's. The amount of premium income which can be written by each member is determined by his deposits, since premium income is normally a good way of ascertaining the possible commitments which may have to be met in the future.

Each year, there is a very strict audit of each member's underwriting accounts and a member could be asked to put up additional security where the authorities consider this to be warranted by the state of the underwriting account and the outlook for the future.

A further safeguard is that each year, every underwriting member has to furnish a guarantee policy based on his premium income. This must be subscribed by other members of Lloyd's according to conditions set out by the Committee of Lloyd's.

The final form of longstop is a Central Fund (which is financed by all members by means of a levy on their premium income). This fund is intended to meet the underwriting liabilities of any member, in the unlikely event of his security and personal assets being insufficient to meet his underwriting commitments.

It is only policyholders who can benefit from this fund, not the members of Lloyd's, each of whom is still responsible for his liabilities to the full extent of his private fortune.

As might be expected, no Lloyd's policyholder has suf-

fered as a result of a member of Lloyd's being in financial difficulties. The Lloyd's authorities naturally consider security to be of paramount importance.

Because Lloyd's has its own Central Fund, motor underwriters at Lloyd's score over the large insurance companies. They do not have to contribute to the sums paid out by the Motor Insurers' Bureau to meet the commitments of insurance companies which have gone into liquidation.

The MIB pays out in respect of claims made by policyholders which were required by law, i.e. legal liability for personal injury to others on the road.

Because Lloyd's has this fund, underwriters are not expected to have to contribute to the Government's "rescue fund" for the insurance industry.

These are the circumstances in which Lloyd's means exactly what the public thinks it ought to mean. Now let us come to the other references to Lloyd's.

Sometimes it is said that an insurance is "backed by Lloyd's". Usually, this means that the company places some reinsurance at Lloyd's.

In effect, it is "laying off" its risk to Lloyd's. Essentially, however, that is for its own protection. This is an arrangement which does not concern the company's policyholders. They simply have a policy with the company.

Reinsurance at Lloyd's—or anywhere else—is no guarantee for a company that it will not fail. This is because the company does not reinsure everything, but only what it chooses.

This could be simply a proportion of each risk, the amount of any single claim over a single figure, or overall losses after they have reached a very high level.

The idea behind most forms of reinsurance is simply to even out the peaks and troughs of experience over the years. In no way is it a guarantee that the company will remain in business, and it is most confusing.

when phrases such as "backed by Lloyd's" are used, since can give a completely false impression of the situation.

Finally, there are the fir Lloyd's brokers. There are more than 200 firms of insurance brokers permitted by the Mittee of Lloyd's to trans business with underwriters the Underwriting and Lloyd's. All business pla Lloyd's passes through hands, although other or agents may be resp for handling the business first place or for seating London.

The largest broking panies in the country, Lloyd's brokers, but a does not necessarily la be large to be "at Lloyd's". The Committee of Lloyd's anxious for small firms come Lloyd's brokers, pro of course, that they can the strict financial and requirements.

A Lloyd's broking firm not place all its busin Lloyd's. It also uses the pany market where it needed, in addition, a Lloyd's market other for which would be unaccept Lloyd's, or if the compan; ket can offer better ter conditions.

Although a firm of L brokers will be careful the market, which it use cannot assume that the se offered will necessarily; be of the same order as insurance had actually placed at Lloyd's.

For anyone who has a or a certificate of insu filing name with underwre Lloyd's first class securi he offered. When the Lloyd's is used in other co it by no means follows th will have the same sa simply because, almost ce will be an insurance co with which the insuran be arranged. And some ance companies are more than others.

John Drumm



The underwriting room at Lloyd's.

Unit trust performance

UNIT TRUSTS: Medium and Income funds (progress this year and in the past three years). Unitholder Index 1,032.5; fall from December 31, 1973: 33.8 per cent.

Table with 2 columns: Fund Name and Performance. Includes Garmure British, Vanguard Capital, Family Fund, Piccadilly Inc/Gro, Buckingham, Sebagg Capital, Brown Shipley, Marlborough, Rowan Securities, Yav Inc Assets, Slater Walker Gro, Archway Capital F, Kleinwort Benson F, National Consols, National West Gro, Bri Life Eul, Wickmore, Profit, Friars House M, L & C Unit Trust, M & G Sec General, M & G General, M & G General, National Comm.

Vera Di Palma

Table with 2 columns: Fund Name and Performance. Includes P & M Income, Key Income, Lloyds Bank Third, Hambro Income, Bridge Income, F&S Income, M & G Dividend, Schroder Income F, S & P Ebor Hst, S & G Extra Yield, Unicorn Income, Hill Samuel High Yd, Framlington Gro, Hill Samuel Inc, Cres High Distr, S & P Scotland, High Income Prior, National Income M, S & P Ebor Sec Loc, Hambro Fund, Hill Samuel Inc, Arie, Hill Samuel Brit, S & P Ebor Gro, Allied Capital, Target Profes, Nat Scot-Trust, Target Cap Res, Equity Fund, Lloyds Bank Sec, Legal & General, NPI Gro Acc F, Target Equity, Pelkan, Abbey General, Portfollio Gro, Guardian Fund, Unicorn Cap, M & C Trustee, Trustee, Sar Bank, Jessel General, Friends Provident, National Inv, S & P General, Unicorn Trustee, Prudential, Trades Union, Jessel Capital, Framlington Cap F, Unicorn "500", Capital Priority, National Dom, Guardian Fund, Minister, Crescent Res, Discretionary F, Lloyds Bank First, S & P Ebor Gro, M & G Midland, Unicorn General, Oceanic Growth, Tyndall Capital M, Ionian Growth F, Wieler Growth F, Barbican, Emblem Fund F, Great Wicbaster M, Cosmopolitan Gro, Equitas, Schroder General, Private Portfollio, Tyndall Ganymede.

Advertisement for insurance, finance, home loans, tax problems, and hire purchase. Includes text: 'INSURANCE? FINANCE? HOME LOANS? TAX PROBLEMS? HIRE PURCHASE?' and 'Get the facts... compare costs... examine the facilities... round... with a flow page.' Also mentions 'Yellow Pages'.

Table with 2 columns: Fund Name and Performance. Includes CT Income, Canlife Income, Selwyn Income, Dreyfus Income, Slater Walker Inc, Brands Income, Nat High Income, Archway Income F, Ionian Income, Al Abacus Income, Piccadilly Ex Inc, Allied High Income, S & P Scot-yields, Vantage Income, Clavis High Income, Charter Income, Merrill High Yield, Jessel Extra Inc, Mutual High Yield, S & P Income, Target Income, S & P High Yield, Nat West Inc, Oceanic High Inc, Vantage Income, Mutual Income, Unicorn Extra Inc, Bri Life Divi, Tyndall Nat loc M, Morgan Great Inc, Trident Income, Abbey Income, Allied Equity Inc.

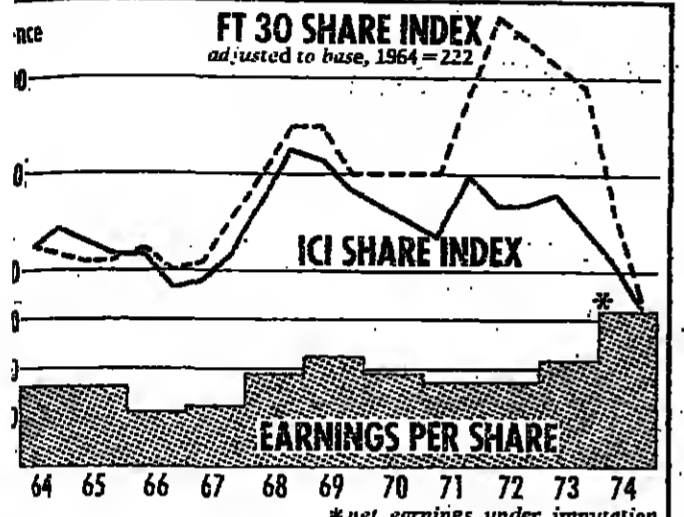
A: Change over one year offer to offer, net income reinvested. B: Change over three years offer to bid, net income reinvested. Both taken to November 28, 1974. C: Trust valued monthly. F: Trust valued every two weeks.

EDITED BY MARGARET STONE

FINANCIAL NEWS

Investor's week Resilient market • Decade with ICI

Stock market has stood up to a week which brought evidence of pressures world currencies and on the red States economy. Glits looked steady, helped by successive falls in United States prime rates. Equities have proved resilient against any implications for property and banking risks arising from the collapse of Triumph Investment.



any investor what he wants is a particular version of the balance between profit security. A less than perfect world is not likely to attain it, amongst the shares which to offer a reasonable choice of each, ICI stands out. Thanks to its big stake in high-growth areas, which include not chemicals and petrochemicals but also fibres, paints, ferrous and metal fabrications, the group's sales have risen steadily to £2,166m in the past decade; its profits rose to £335m before tax—more than double previous highest total—likely to work out much more this year. Its financial position at the end of 1973 is also extremely strong. It sounds like the perfect choice for widows, orphans and men from the Pru. But, in its performance against the index over the past decade, it has been distinctly poor. The investor of early 1969 was not, in consequence, to win out against the index until the autumn of this year, at which point the money value of his investment would have been down by 48 per cent, and that of the index investor by rather more. Since then our hypothetical investor has seen the value of his shares in ICI slide far more rapidly than the index, as investors came to terms with the fact that another bout of over-capacity was on the way. It remains to be seen if ICI can perform any better over the next 10 years.

Unit trusts go Slater Walker

British unit trust has been sold. Before the hit its parent company, Securities, it was in with a deal with Cateel which would have run in the group getting a market-quotations. However, the Cateel deal is abortive in the wake of problems with London City and General Insurance, but this has not necessitated the disadvantage of unit-holders. For now, Slater Walker and its unit trust group, Slater Walker, is a unit trust group. It is the most successful of trust groups, recent despite the fact that the groups had different operational philosophies. Slater Walker is presently specialist in outlook. The nine Slater funds are in the general category. There will be some differences between the two sets, but at this stage there is a much-apparent rationality to be achieved. However, the new Slater is now worth £80m, a doubling up in size. But

J'son Matthey has agreed £4.1m Corpn tax deferral from Jan 1

Reporting interim profits up from £6.72m to £8.45m—masking an improvement of around 14 per cent in the second quarter—Johnson Matthey, the big bullion, metals and banking concern, says that a £4.1m deferral of corporation tax due on January has been agreed with the Inland Revenue. When the Finance Bill, following the Chancellor's Budget earlier this month, becomes law, the company will make a further statement giving details of the tax consequences for the group, given the Chancellor's concessions on stock appreciation. Sales for the six-month period to September 30, excluding Johnson Matthey Bankers, were £158.82m, against £115.47m in the same period last year. The interim dividend goes up from 5.35p a share gross to 7.47p a share gross. Profit is struck after interest charges of £2.12m, against £300,000, while estimated tax of £5.78m arising on the increased value of precious base metal stocks has been charged against reserves. Precious metal stocks are valued at base prices, Johnson Matthey says that market prices had been applied the amount to the balance-sheet would have been higher by £19.78m.

Reverse at Morgan Grampian

The market was prepared for a reduced profit at Morgan Grampian after the chairman's warning at the annual meeting, but the first-half loss of £32,000, against a profit of £11.1m, caught it by surprise and resulted in a 7-point drop to 27p in the shares. The board says that its discontinued unprofitable activities to secure future growth, and forecasts a return to former profit levels on the magazine side. This section, together with book publishing, has seen a 10 per cent increase in turnover to £347,000, while there was nothing from the newspaper side (which was sold in 1973) against £497,000. Turnover is up from £7.7m to £9.05m, all of which comes from magazines and books, against £5.6m last year.

First-half setback at London & Northern

By Margaret Drummond. Pre-tax profits of the house-building and construction group, London & Northern Securities, fell from £5.5m to £3.4m in the six months to the end of June, but group chairman, Mr J. MacKenzie is forecasting a substantial increase in second-half profits, which will hopefully enable the full 12 months' profits to approximate with last year's level, while further good progress is expected in 1975. The tight supply situation in building materials has eased level of activity in the house-building sector. But the group's overseas interests have been trading at record levels, while the metal reclamation and double glazing have improved sales and profitability. The chairman forecasts a "substantial increase in second-half profits, which will hopefully enable the full 12 months' profits to approximate with last year's level, while further good progress is expected in 1975. The tight supply situation in building materials has eased

Latest dividends

Table with columns: Company, Dividend, Yield, etc. Lists dividends for various companies like Ashbourne, Birminghams, etc.

Wall Street

New York, Nov 29.—Stocks on the New York stock exchange declined today in some of the slowest trading of the year. The Dow Jones industrial average slipped 0.23 to 618.66. It was off about four points at its low of the day. Declining issues moderately outpaced gainers.

Large table of stock market data including company names, prices, and changes. Includes sections for 'Suits' rise 5 pc and 'Chown tumbles'.

NY Silver closed 10 cents up

New York, Nov 29.—SILVER closed 10 cents up to 10.90 cents per ounce on the New York market today. The closing range was over the day's highs. Silver was up 10 cents from 10.80 to 10.90. The gold price was up 10 cents from 170.00 to 171.00. The silver price was up 10 cents from 170.00 to 171.00.

Queen St in the red

Returning a net loss of £162,000, against a profit of £34,000, for the 24 weeks to July 24, Queen Street Warehouse says trading in the second half may not produce much reduction in the loss. Turnover was £2.1m (£2m) and has been improved by the proceeds from the sale of a property in Kingsland High Street, London, for £180,000.

S Osborn produce £2m in final six months

Samuel Osborn, the Sheffield special steel maker wherein Jessel associate Johnson Firth Brown have just over 20 per cent, roared ahead in the year to September 27 and the shares rose 5p to 25p yesterday. Sales were up by nearly 33 per cent to £25.9m, while pre-tax profits leapt over 300 per cent to £2.89m. These were struck after a small rise in interest charges to £655,000 included a slightly bigger associated company and investment income of £113,000. Thanks to past losses Osborn paid on United Kingdom tax, so the total charge (arising overseas) is only £833,000, against £636,000. Interim profits dimmed from £124,000 to £82,000. At the time Mr Bernard Cotton, chairman, said a similar level of profits was expected in the second half. To fact, Osborn went on to make £2.04m.

Ulster strike checks UK Optical

The share price of UK Optical & Industrial failed to respond favourably yesterday to the better interim performance. Generally the group has not been badly affected by the troubles in Ulster where it has one of its main manufacturing centres.

B'ham Mint shock

Following last year's record results Birmingham Mint has lapsed into a first half loss and is omitting the interim ordinary dividend. A taxable loss of £73,000 (against a profit of £317,000) is blamed on an unlucky combination of reduced demand and short-term destocking from holders' merchants, consumer durable industries and the United Kingdom military market. The share price was more than halved yesterday on the news.

German loss a jolt for United Gas, but outlook is brighter

It was generally held that United Gas Industries had largely resolved the series of problems which had dogged it, but opening results counteract the view with a dive in trading profit from £612,000 to £339,000. This latest upset now comes from abroad, with the German subsidiary incurring a substantial loss of some £200,000. On a brighter note, as a result of the oil crisis and the revival of the European gas industry, substantial new orders have been received. In this light the board confidently expects a return to a good measure of profit next year.

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Eurobond prices (midday indicators)

Table of Eurobond prices for various countries and maturities, including columns for Bid, Offer, and Non-S bonds.

Advertisement for TSB Family Income Plan. Text: 'How would your family manage without you? If you're the head of a family, you won't need us to tell you how expensive your life is. Food, clothes, mortgage, petrol: it all adds up to a lot of money leaving your pocket. Now ask yourself this: How would your wife manage all those expenses if she were suddenly left on her own? A TSB Family Income Plan would make sure she could bundle them, at least until the children started earning. Here's an example of how it works. Let's suppose that you're 29 and you want to protect your family until you're 50. You want to ensure that if you died tomorrow your wife would receive £1,000 tax free income every year for the next 20 years. The annual premium for this is £5-49 a quarter (or just £21 a year). And you will be sure that should anything happen to you, your family will be well protected by the TSB. The TSB cheques will keep coming, month after month, until you would have reached 50. That should solve most of their problems. Except, perhaps, the problem of rising prices in the shops. The Escalating Plan. We know that prices keep going up every year, so we've introduced an alternative Plan by which the benefit is increased by 3 1/2% every year from the moment your Plan starts. There's a slightly higher premium to match. Or take a lump sum. Here's a third Plan. Instead of receiving the benefits as income each year, your wife can choose to receive a lump sum in place of the income benefit that would otherwise be payable. Tax Relief—as at September 1974. You'll be able to recover a proportion of your premiums in the form of tax relief. The income payable under both the Non-escalating and Escalating Family Income Plan is free of all tax. And should you decide to receive a lump sum, this again is free of all tax. Now, here's another important question: Could you manage without your wife? You can start a Plan on your wife's life, so that you will receive the income should anything happen to her. To do this your wife simply completes the proposal form and you both fill in the "life of another" section. Medical Examination? Not usually, unless you're over 40 or you are insuring yourself for more than £15,000. If we do ask for one it will be at our expense. We're not out to waste your valuable time. Just to protect it. Ask at your local TSB for details.

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